

REGISTRATION BEGINS MONDAY, JUNE 1

Your guide to Programs, Events, Classes & More

2026 SUMMER PROGRAM GUIDE & NEWSLETTER

Ocean County Parks & Recreation Natural Lands Trust



SUMMER BOAT TOURS

Ocean County Board of Commissioners

Robert S. Arace – Chairman of Parks and Recreation

Frank Sadeghi – Director

Jennifer Bacchione – Deputy Director,

Robert S. Arace, Sam Ellenbogen, Ray Gormley

Mary Jane Bavais

Director of Parks and Recreation

www.oceancountyparks.org

COVER STORY: SUMMER BOAT TOURS

A spectacular way to enjoy the beautiful waters of Ocean County is by boat. The Ocean County Department of Parks and Recreation provides a variety of boat tours and cruises from mid-June through August. Whether this is your first trip or you are returning with family and friends, the Ocean County Parks Bay Cruiser II tours are truly a local gem.

One of the best ways to witness a Barnegat Bay sunset is aboard the Bay Cruiser II during a Barnegat Bay Twilight Tour. Enjoy a relaxing hour-and-a-half cruise around the shoreline of Cattus Island County Park, viewing evening wildlife and learning about the salt marsh ecosystem, conservation, and history. Watch for osprey returning to their nests to feed their young or fish jumping in the breakers. On your return to the dock, enjoy all the splendid colors of a local sunset.

Barnegat Bay supports one of the largest and most diverse breeding colonies of birds in the state. Early Bird Ornithology Tours take you up close to tidal marshlands where breeding egrets, herons, gulls, and terns nest. This two-hour tour takes you along Cattus Island County Park marshland as well as marshes across Barnegat Bay. Bring your own binoculars or borrow a pair of ours; the guide will show you how exciting it can be to “bird” in Ocean County.

The Metedeconk River Cruise leaves from Trader’s Cove Marina in Bricktown and travels past the Forsythe Wildlife Refuge and Herring Island on the way to the mouth of the mighty Metedeconk River. It is the second-largest river to feed the Barnegat Bay Estuary and flows through the densest development in Ocean County. This hour-and-a-half cruise is rich in cultural and natural history.

The most popular tours are the Barnegat Bay Lunch and Dinner Cruises. Grab some friends or family and hop on board for a cool and relaxing trip to lunch or dinner. You will arrive in style at local restaurants such as Water Street, MJ’s Restaurant, Xina Chinese Bistro, and Beacon 70. Sit back with your loved ones and enjoy the sights along Barnegat Bay as we head to our dining locale. You will be given time to dine and then meet back on the Bay Cruiser II for the return trip to the dock. Participants are responsible for paying for their lunch/dinner and gratuity.

Most tours leave from the boat dock at the Ocean County Parks and Recreation Administration Building at 1198 Bandon Rd, Toms River, unless noted for Trader’s Cove Marina in Brick. The Bay Cruiser II is a pontoon/catamaran-style boat holding 23 people aged 4 and up, plus a licensed captain and a mate/tour guide. Pre-registration is required for all tours at a fee of \$14.00 per person.



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Mary Jane Bavais - Director of Parks and Recreation
Scott Binkley - County Parks Superintendent
Tracey Lynch - Division Director of Recreation
Timothy G. Hart - Division Director Cultural & Heritage Commission

The Ocean County Parks & Recreation Newsletter
is sponsored by the
Ocean County Board of Commissioners
Robert S. Arace – Chairman of Parks and Recreation
Jennifer Bacchione, Sam Ellenbogen, Ray Gormley
and Frank Sadeghi.

It is prepared by the Ocean County Parks & Recreation Department
Contributors: Active Recreation & Environmental Staff

The Natural Lands Trust Fund Program

Good Luck Point



The Good Luck Point project area is a target acquisition area for the County of Ocean, with a collective of over 20 preserved properties totaling approximately 724 acres in Berkeley Township. The County continues its effort to preserve this environmentally sensitive area. Throughout various properties in the area, the Ocean County Natural Lands Trust Fund has received funding from Blue Acres to assist with the purchasing of these properties. Notably, the Trust for Public Lands has helped to preserve nearly 210 acres of land.

Preserving this land goes further than just the ecological functions. By preserving it we also allow the marshes to do their main job to absorb possible flooding and storm surges, protecting the communities around it. The plant roots also help prevent further erosion by stabilizing sediment along the shore.

This property is located along the Atlantic Flyway, which is crucial for migratory birds. This makes this property amazing for our local bird enthusiasts. Some of the birds that can be seen here are Ospreys, Peregrine Falcons, Egrets, and Sandpipers. The surrounding waters around Good Luck Point are part of the Barnegat Bay Estuary. This is significant because this brackish water is a crucial support for many ecosystems. Species that call this home are DiamondBack Terrapins, Blue Crabs, and countless fish. Many species use this area as a nursery for their young to grow before they migrate back into the deeper ocean.

LINKS:

WEB PAGE: <https://www.planning.co.ocean.nj.us/frmEPNaturalLandTrust>

INTERACTIVE MAP: <https://bit.ly/3peBDz7>

FREE WEEKEND PROGRAMS

CATTUS ISLAND COUNTY PARK

These programs will be first-come first served basis.

Scales and Tales

Join a park naturalist as they dispel the myths and fears of native reptiles. You will see some of our live snakes and turtles up close and personal. Learn what makes these native species so special, and why they are such an important part of the ecosystem. This program is sure to inspire all young nature lovers.

***No registration required.**

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

DATE: Saturdays and Sundays

TIME: 1:30 -2:00 pm

FEE: FREE

AGE: All

Cattus Island Nature Walks

Be a part of a 40-year Ocean County tradition! Join a park naturalist and follow in the footsteps of such legendary local environmentalists as A. Morton and Betty Cooper, Dorothy Hale and Pete McClain. Be prepared to discover the fascinating and diverse wonders of the natural world.

***No registration required.**

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

DATE: Saturdays and Sundays

TIME: 2:00 – 3:00 pm

FEE: FREE

AGE: All

July 5

Osprey Watch

July 11 & 12

Salt Marsh Safari

July 18 & 19

Butterfly and Bog Garden Stroll

July 25 & 26

Life in a Mosquito Ditch

August 1 & 2

Hummingbirds at Home

August 8 & 9

Osprey Watch

August 15 & 16

Butterfly and Bog Garden Stroll

August 22 & 23

Salt Marsh Safari

August 29 & 30

Life in a Mosquito Ditch

September 5 & 6

Naturalist Choice

September 12 & 13

Butterfly and Bog Garden Stroll

September 19 & 20

Salt Marsh Safari

September 26 & 27

Farewell to the Osprey

Discovery Backpacks at Cattus Island

Cattus Island County Park has discovery backpacks that may be borrowed for FREE*. The packs include: a pair of binoculars, field guides, an audio guide to bird sounds, a dip net, tools for catching and observing insects, and a list of suggested activities and games. The packs are appropriate for groups of children of any age.

***A member of the group must provide a driver's license for the staff to hold until the pack is returned.**

Tour Cattus Island by Bike

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

FREE WEEKEND PROGRAMS

CLOVERDALE FARM COUNTY PARK

Monthly Bird Walks

Learn how Cloverdale Farm County Park's bird population changes month by month. This informative one hour-bird walk is perfect for all levels of birders. **Please be prepared to walk a mile, wear comfortable sneakers or boots, dress for the weather, and bring a pair of binoculars. If inclement weather, the program will be canceled.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES: Saturdays, July 25 August 8 September 5

TIME: 8:00 - 9:00 am FEE: Free, no registration required AGE: 9 years - Adult

Armchair Birding

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

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES: Saturdays, July 25 August 8 September 5

TIME: 9:30 - 10:30 am FEE: Free, no registration required AGE: 12 years - Adult

Calling All Artists! Cloverdale Farm's Plein Air Weekend

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

LOCATION: Entire Park, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES: Friday, July 31 - Sunday, August 2

Friday, September 4 - Sunday, September 6

TIME: 8:00 am - 6:00 pm

FEE: Free AGES: All; children must be accompanied by adult

Early Morning Strolls

Get your week started right with a morning 1-mile stroll through the uplands forest at Cloverdale Farm County Park. This program is perfect for all ages. If inclement weather should occur, we will cancel. **Please dress for the weather and wear comfortable walking shoes.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES: Sundays, July 5 July 12 July 26

August 16 August 30 September 6

TIME: 7:00 - 8:00 am FEE: Free AGE: Adult

Solving STEM Problems With LEGOs

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

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES: Saturday, July 11 Saturday, August 22

TIME: 9:00 - 10:00 am FEE: Free AGES: 5 years - Adult

FREE WEEKEND PROGRAMS

Nature Photography

Cranberry bogs with their vibrant colors offer spectacular scenery and host an array of wildlife. Bring your camera along with you as you take a guided tour of the bogs at Cloverdale Farm County Park to snap some memorable photos. This program is great for photographers of all levels. **Please dress for the weather and wear comfortable sneakers or boots.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES: Sundays, July 5 July 12 July 26
 August 16 August 30 September 6

TIME: 8:30 – 9:30 am FEE: Free 12 years – Adult

CEDAR BRIDGE TAVERN

Miniature Cannon Construction Craft

Using new and recycled materials, participants will leave with their own mini pom-pom firing cannon and find out how soldiers used cannons during the Revolutionary War. All supplies provided.

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

DATE: Sunday, July 19

TIME: 1:00 - 2:00 pm AGE: 4 -12 years FEE: Free

What Does 250 Mean to You?

In this program for children in Kindergarten through Third grade, we'll explore what it means to celebrate the 250th anniversary of our country. We'll read a kid-friendly story about how fairness, community, and working together helped us grow into the America we know today. We'll talk about what this big anniversary means and why we commemorate it. Then we'll create a patriotic craft and add our input to a special commemorative 250 art piece. All supplies provided, parents must accompany child.

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

DATES: Sundays, July 26 August 16

TIME: 10:30 - 11:45 am AGE: 5 – 9 years FEE: Free

JAKES BRANCH COUNTY PARK

Live Animal Talks

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

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

LOCATION: Nature Center, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATES: Sundays, beginning July 12 – September 27

TIME: 1:30 pm AGE: All

Discovery Nature Walks at Jakes Branch

Join a park naturalist on these brief but informative nature walks through Jakes Branch.

***Weather permitting* walks will not exceed 30 minutes.**

LOCATION: Nature Center, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATES: Sundays, July 19 – September 27

TIME: 2:00 pm AGE: All



TEACHERS!...Borrow-A-Naturalist

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

Contact Christopher Claus at (732) 506-5122

or

cclaus@co.ocean.nj.us

for more information or to set up an appointment.

SUMMER BOAT TOURS

Barnegat Bay At Twilight

Few things are as beautiful as a Barnegat Bay sunset. The ribbons of color racing across the sky are reflected in the rippling water. No place allows you to bear witness to this sight better than a seat on Ocean County Park's Bay Cruiser II. As day surrenders to night, darkness allows for a new perspective on the shoreline and sky. Please join us for a relaxed cruise along the shores of Cattus Island. A naturalist will be on board to answer questions and interpret the sights and sounds of twilight.

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

DATE/TIME:

Wednesday, June 17	7:00 - 8:30pm.....	272096 - 2A
Tuesday, June 23	7:00 - 8:30pm.....	272096 - 2B
Thursday, June 25	7:00 - 8:30pm.....	272096 - 2C
Tuesday, June 30	7:00 - 8:30pm.....	272096 - 2D
Tuesday, July 7	7:00 - 8:30pm.....	272096 - 2E
Thursday, July 9	7:00 - 8:30pm.....	VETERANS 272096 - 2Z
Thursday, July 16	7:00 - 8:30pm.....	272096 - 2F
Tuesday, July 21	7:00 - 8:30pm.....	272096 - 2G
Wednesday, July 22	7:00 - 8:30pm.....	272096 - 2H
Thursday, July 23	7:00 - 8:30pm.....	272096 - 2I
Tuesday, July 28	6:30 - 8:00pm.....	272096 - 2J
Thursday, July 30	6:30 - 8:00pm.....	272096 - 2K
Thursday, August 6	6:30 - 8:00pm.....	272096 - 2L
Tuesday, August 11	6:30 - 8:00pm.....	272096 - 2M
Wednesday, August 19	6:00 - 7:30pm.....	272096 - 2N
Thursday, August 20	6:00 - 7:30pm.....	272096 - 2O
Tuesday, August 25	6:00 - 7:30pm.....	272096 - 2P
Thursday, August 27	6:00 - 7:30pm.....	272096 - 2Q

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 4 years - Adult



“Early Bird” Ornithology

Barnegat Bay supports one of the largest and most diverse breeding colonies of birds in the state. Our boat will get you as close as ecologically possible to tidal marsh islands where osprey, gulls, terns, herons, and egrets nest. Join us as we observe the acrobatic maneuvers of Ospreys as they catch their food and hear the rapid calls of Belted Kingfishers while in flight.

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

DATE:

Tuesday, June 16.....	272066 - 2A
Thursday, July 2.....	272066 - 2B
Friday, July 10.....	272066 - 2C
Friday, July 24.....	272066 - 2D
Tuesday, August 4.....	272066 - 2E
Friday, August 14.....	272066 - 2F
Friday, August 28.....	272066 - 2G

TIME: 7:00 - 9:00 am

FEE: \$14.00 per person

SUMMER BOAT TOURS

Metedeconk Cruise

The Metedeconk River has a rich cultural and natural history. It is the second largest river to feed the Barnegat Bay Estuary and flows through the densest development in Ocean County. This tour will leave from Trader's Cove Marina in Bricktown and travel past the Forsythe Wildlife Refuge and Herring Island on the way to the mouth of the mighty Metedeconk River. A naturalist will be on board to point out the sights and answer questions.

PICK-UP: Trader's Cove Marina, Mantoloking Road, Brick Township

DATE:

Wednesday, July 1.....	272076 – 2A
Tuesday, July 14.....	272076 – 2B
Wednesday, July 29.....	272076 – 2C
Friday, August 7.....	272076 – 2D

TIME: 9:00 – 10:30 am

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 4 years – Adult

Barnegat Bay Lunch Cruise

Sit back and enjoy the sights along Barnegat Bay as we head to our dining locale. What a great way to spend a day or treat a friend!

Participants will be responsible for paying for their lunch and gratuity.

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

DATE:

Monday, June 15	Lunch at MJ's Restaurant.....	272044 – 2A
Monday, July 6	Lunch at Water Street.....	272044 – 2B
Monday, July 20	Lunch at MJ's Restaurant.....	272044 – 2C
Monday, August 17	Lunch at MJ's Restaurant.....	272044 – 2D
Wednesday, August 26	Lunch at Water Street.....	272044 – 2E

TIME: 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

Wednesday, June 24	Lunch at Xina Chinese Bistro.....	272044 – 2F
Monday, July 27	Lunch at Xina Chinese Bistro.....	272044 – 2G
Wednesday, August 5	Lunch at Xina Chinese Bistro.....	272044 – 2H
Monday, August 31	Lunch at Xina Chinese Bistro.....	272044 – 2I

TIME: 11:30 am – 3:00 pm

PICK-UP: Trader's Cove Marina, Mantoloking Road, Brick Township

DATE:

Wednesday, July 15	Lunch at Beacon 70.....	272044 – 2J
Monday, August 10	Lunch at Beacon 70.....	272044 – 2K

TIME: 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 4 years – Adult

Barnegat Bay Dinner at WATER STREET Cruise

Quite simply, a Barnegat Bay Dinner Cruise is the perfect night out. Sit back with your loved ones and enjoy the sights along Barnegat Bay as we head to Water Street Restaurant in Toms River. After a wonderful meal, we will head back to port enjoying the setting sun as the day fades away and the harbor lights illuminate our pathway home.

Participants will be responsible for paying for their dinner and gratuity.

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

Monday, June 22.....	4:30 - 8:30 pm.....	272044 – 2L
Monday, June 29.....	4:30 - 8:30 pm.....	272044 – 2M
Wednesday, July 8.....	4:30 - 8:30 pm.....	272044 – 2N
Monday, July 13.....	4:30 - 8:30 pm.....	272044 – 2O
Monday, August 3.....	4:00 - 8:00 pm.....	272044 – 2P
Wednesday, August 12...	4:00 - 8:00 pm.....	272044 – 2Q
Tuesday, August 18.....	3:30 - 7:30 pm	272044 – 2R
Monday, August 24.....	3:30 - 7:30 pm.....	272044 – 2S

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 4 years - Adult

PADDLEBOARDING

Introduction to Stand Up Paddleboarding

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

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

DATE: Monday, August 10.....272306 – 2F

TIME: 9:00 - 10:30 am FEE: \$10.00 per person AGE: 14 years - Adult

Stand Up Paddleboarding Marsh Ecology Tour

Explore the salt marshes in Cattus Island County Park via paddleboarding. Adventure through the ditches and ponds of the salt marsh taking in a unique perspective of the marsh ecology. **Must have taken Introduction to Paddleboarding or have paddleboarding experience.**

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

DATE: Monday, August 24.....272306 – 2G

TIME: 9:45 - 11:45 am

DATE: Monday, September 14.....272306 – 2H

TIME: 2:30 - 4:30 pm FEE: \$10.00per person AGE: 14 years - Adult

KAYAKING

Estuary Kayak Tours

Explore the salt marsh and Silver Bay as our staff guide you on our 2-person sit-upon kayaks. Kayaks, paddles, and PFDs will be provided for our participants. Please plan on arriving 15 minutes prior to the tour. **Please wear water shoes or old sneakers, and clothes that can get wet. This program is weather dependent.**

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

DATE: Wednesdays

July 1.....272306 – 2A

July 15.....272306 – 2B

July 29.....272306 – 2C

August 12.....272306 – 2D

August 26.....272306 – 2E

TIME: 9:00 - 10:30 am FEE: \$5.00 per person Age: 14 years – Adult



KAYAK TOURING TRIPS

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

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

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

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

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

RATING SYSTEM

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



Bass River

Traveling to Burlington County

This paddle will take us up the Bass River past the mighty Viking Yachts and upstream to where the houses are sparse, but the scenery isn't. Hopefully we will time our trip to when some of the late blooming summer wildflowers are a mass of reds and yellows!

Pack a lunch, sunscreen, insect repellent and plenty of water.

****NO BATHROOM FACILITIES ALONG ROUTE****

PICK-UP: Parking Lot, Stanley H. "Tip" Seaman County Park, Tuckerton

DATE: Saturday, July 18.....275306 – 5A

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

RATING: A, B, C, E

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

AGE: 16 years – Adult

KAYAK TOURING TRIPS

Dock Road to Dock Road Kayak Trip

We will launch from Cedar Run Dock Road and head south to West Creek Dock Road following the marshy shoreline along the way. We will be out in open water for most of the trip and we will likely experience wind and waves. We may duck into Dinner Point Creek for a short time.

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

DATE: Saturday, August 22.....275306 – 5B

TIME: 8:30 am – 3:00 pm

RATING: A, B, C, E

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

AGE: 16 years – Adult



RIVER PADDLING

There's no better way to see the natural areas of our state than on the water! With our canoe instructors and naturalist guides, you can enjoy a guided tour with environmental/historical interpretation along the way. **We provide one canoe for every two people or a limited number of single person river kayaks.** The \$14 fee includes a canoe or river kayak, paddle, life vest and transportation. If you bring your own canoe or kayak, the fee is \$10 per person. Kayaks appropriate for smaller rivers are welcome. Please pack a lunch and wear appropriate clothing that can get wet and/or dirty. Quick drying fabrics are best. If you have never canoed before or would like to sharpen your skills, sign up for a class (listed below when in season). **Registration is required. Please consult the ratings below and be sure to select a trip that matches your skill level. *Children must be 11 years or older and accompanied by an adult to participate. Each child ages 11-13 must be in a canoe with an adult. Older children may rent a kayak.** We recommend you arrive 20 minutes prior to departure time. All return times are approximate. **If you have any questions, please call Wells Mills County Park at 609-971-3085. Staff reserves the right to deny a participant entry into a program if they are deemed physically unfit or inadequately prepared to participate in said program. Be prepared for portages (carrying your boat over obstacles) on all trips.**

Please consult the ratings below and be sure to select a trip that matches your skill level.

Canoe Difficulty Rating

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

**** YOU MUST HAVE RIVER PADDLING EXPERIENCE AND BE ABLE TO NEGOTIATE RIVER TURNS TO PARTICIPATE ON RIVER TRIPS****

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

RIVER PADDLING

Middle Batsto (Quaker Bridge to Mill Pond)

5.5 miles

Traveling to Burlington County

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

DATE: Thursday, July 2

CANOE (rental) or BRING OWN BOAT.....274126 – 4A

RIVER KAYAK (rental).....274126 – 4B

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm

RATING: A, B, C, D, G, H

AGE: 11 years - Adult

FEE: \$14.00 per person, \$10.00 if bringing your own boat

Wading River (Hawkins Bridge - Beaver Branch)

9.5 miles

Traveling to Burlington County

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

DATE: Tuesday, July 21

CANOE (rental) or BRING OWN BOAT.....274126 – 4C

RIVER KAYAK (rental).....274126 – 4D

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

RATING: A, B, D, F, H

AGE: 11 years - Adult

FEE: \$14.00 per person, \$10.00 if bringing your own boat

Cedar Creek (Ore Pond - Trestle)

6.5 miles

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

DATE: Thursday, August 20

CANOE (rental) or BRING OWN BOAT.....274126 – 4E

RIVER KAYAK (rental).....274126 – 4F

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 8:00 am – 2:00 pm

RATING: A, B, D, G, H

AGE: 11 years - Adult

FEE: \$14.00 per person, \$10.00 if bringing your own boat

RIVER PADDLING JAUNTS

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

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

Wading River Jaunt (Evans Bridge-Beaver Branch)

4.5 miles

Traveling to Burlington County

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

DATE: Wednesday, July 8

CANOE (rental) or BRING OWN BOAT.....274126 – 4G

RIVER KAYAK (rental).....274126 – 4H

DATE: Friday, August 14

CANOE (rental) or BRING OWN BOAT.....274126 – 4I

RIVER KAYAK (rental).....274126 – 4J

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 8:00 am - 1:30 pm

RATING: A, B, D, G, H

AGE: 11 years - Adult

FEE: \$12.00 per person, \$8.00 if bringing your own boat

RIVER PADDLING JAUNTS

Lower Rancocas (Smithville to Iron Bridge)

4 miles

Traveling to Burlington County

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

DATE: Friday, July 31

CANOE (rental) or BRING OWN BOAT.....274126 – 4K

RIVER KAYAK (rental).....274126 – 4L

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 8:00 am - 12:30 pm

RATING: A, B, D, G, H

AGE: 11 years - Adult

FEE: \$12.00 per person, \$8.00 if bringing your own boat

PADDLING PROGRAMS

Beginners Canoe Clinic & River Paddle

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

This program is canoeing only.

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

DATE: Wednesday, August 5.....274126 – 4M

TIME: 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

RATING: Beginners. Must be able to swim

AGE: 11 years - Adult

FEE: \$14.00 per person

Twilight Nature Float on Wells Mills Lake

We will be utilizing our new tandem sit-on-top kayaks. Please be prepared to get a little wet.

LOCATION: Nature Center, Wells Mills County Park, Waretown

DATE: Friday, August 7.....274126 – 4N

TIME: 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Rating: A, C, G

FEE: \$6.00 per person

AGE: 10 years - Adult

FAMILY FUN

Summer Picnic Party

Kick off the summer with a party at John C. Bartlett Jr. County Park at Berkeley Island.

This beautiful park offers amazing views of the Barnegat Bay and a spray park for the kids. We will have a live band performing along with some food trucks and many games and activities for all to enjoy including, corn hole, bocce, horseshoes, and giant twister.

Sit back and relax, bring a few chairs or a blanket, and enjoy an evening on the Barnegat Bay. **This event is rain or shine.**

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

DATE: Thursday, June 25

TIME: 5:00 – 8:30 pm

FEE: Free

AGE: All

Freshwater Fishing 101

In this introductory program, the Cloverdale staff and volunteers will introduce you to the common types of rods and reels used in freshwater fishing, and what bait, lures and tackle are required for different fishing situations. You will also learn to tie some basic knots used to attach tackle to your line. By the end of this program, you will be casting away and having a great time!

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Wednesday, July 1.....276466 – 6A

TIME: 8:30 -11:00 am

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 8 years - Adult

FAMILY FUN

Beautiful, Beneficial Butterflies

Why are different species of butterflies attracted to certain plants? Are you curious to learn more about butterflies and other pollinators? What does it take to develop and maintain your very own butterfly garden? Learn all this and more at Cattus Island's beautiful and fragrant Butterfly Garden, located in front of the Cooper Environmental Center. A naturalist will be on hand to show you around and answer your questions. No registration is required. This program is weather dependent.

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

DATE: Thursdays, July 2-August 27

TIME: 2:30 - 3:30 pm

FEE: Free

AGE: All

"In-Seine" Fridays

Go "in-seine" with this fun Friday morning adventure. We will take a van tour to Cattus Island's bay beach area. Upon arriving at the beach, our naturalist will explain the fine art of seining. You will see a seining demonstration and get a close-up view of native bay species. No registration required. This program is weather dependent. Swimming is not permitted.

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

DATE: Fridays, July 10 - August 28

TIME: 10:00 - 11:00 am

FEE: Free

AGE: All

Jakes Branch Herp Walk

Join us for a guided herpetology walk in the New Jersey Pine Barrens with a special focus on the region's native snakes. We'll explore forest trails, wetlands, and sandy habitats while learning how to identify local species, understand their behavior, and recognize the important role snakes play in the Pine Barrens ecosystem. This walk emphasizes safe, respectful observation and is designed to be informative and approachable for all experience levels. **Please wear sneakers or boots, dress for the weather, and be prepared to walk up to 2 miles.**

LOCATION: Nature Center, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Sunday, July 12.....275466 – 5A

DATE: Saturday, August 8.....275466 – 5B

DATE: Saturday, September 5.....275466 – 5C

TIME: 10:30 am – 12:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 8 years – Adult

World Snake Day Celebration

The Cooper Environmental Center is celebrating World Snake Day!! Come celebrate these fascinating creatures with crafts and workshops. No registration required.

LOCATION: Cooper Environmental Center, Exhibit Room & Lecture Room, Cattus Island County Park

DATE: Friday, July 17

TIME: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

11:00 -11:45 am

1:30 - 2:30 pm

Drop-in Snake Craft

Snake Lecture

Snake Feeding

FEE: Free

AGE: All



FAMILY FUN

“Night of the Stars” at Jakes Branch

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

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

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

DATE: Saturday, July 18

TIME: 9:00 – 11:00pm

DATE: Saturday, August 22

TIME: 9:00 – 11:00pm

DATE: Saturday, September 19

TIME: 8:00 – 10:00pm

LOCATION: Field, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Saturday, August 15

TIME: 8:30 - 10:30 pm

FEE: Free

AGE: All

Non-Profit Groups & Vendors Wanted for Beach Ball Blast

Our 14th Annual Beach Ball Blast is rapidly approaching. This premier event hosted by the Ocean County Parks and Recreation Department usually draws a large crowd of all ages. The evening will include a variety of food trucks, vendors, and music. Non-profit groups are invited, free of charge, to use this event as a fundraiser by providing various activities, information, or food. We are also accepting food and craft vendors for a small fee. All vendors must be family-friendly and provide a summer/beach theme and/or product. If you are interested in participating, please contact Jake at (732) 506-9090 x 5964 or email him at JHaug@co.ocean.nj.us

LOCATION: OC Parks Administration Bayfront Fields, 1198 Bandon Rd. Toms River

DATE: Thursday, July 23.....BEACH26

TIME: 5:00 - 8:30 pm

FEE: Free

AGE: All

Jakes Branch Moth Night

Celebrate National Moth Week with us at Jakes Branch County Park for our first ever Moth Night! National Moth Week is an annual, global event that invites people of all ages and backgrounds to participate in the moth hobby by sharing photos of moths they find for citizen science. These contributions help researchers study moth diversity, distribution, and ecology worldwide! We will have sheets and light traps set up in the park as well as naturalists present to help ID species and answer questions. Join us for a fun night of scientific exploration!

LOCATION: Nature Center, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Friday, July 24

TIME: 8:30 – 10:30 pm

FEE: FREE - Drop-in program. No registration required.

AGE: ALL

Junior Garden Explorers

Tour the garden at historic Cedar Bridge Tavern to learn what our ancestors grew to survive. Drop-in to design and paint a small starter planting pot. Then plant marigold flower or pine tree seeds to start your own garden at home. Please wear work clothes. All materials are provided.

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

DATE: Saturdays,

August 15.....279466 – 9A

August 22.....279466 – 9B

TIME: 10:00 - 11:00 am

FEE: \$5.00 per person

FAMILY FUN

Let's Build It: Wooden Toy Boat & Races

Ready, Set, Float! During this program, you and your child will create a paddlewheel-style wooden boat and have the opportunity to race it against other families.

LOCATION: Program Room Cloverdale, Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Sunday, August 16.....276466 – 6B

TIME: 10:00 - 11:00 am

FEE: \$10.00 per team (one adult and one child)

AGE: 4 years – Adult

Guided Family Campout at Cloverdale

Camp out with us! This guided, overnight camping experience at Cloverdale covers all the basics. This activity is perfect for beginners and those wishing to brush up on their skills. Activities include hiking, fire making, and s'more roasting! Please be sure to eat dinner beforehand, bring your own tent, sleeping bags, flashlights, bug spray, water, and a "no-cook" breakfast. By the end, you're sure to be a confident, safe, and responsible camper.

LOCATION: Field, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE/TIME: Friday, August 28 6:00 pm to Saturday, August 29 9:00 am.....276466 – 6C

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 5 years – Adult

GIANT Flea Market

The Giant Flea Market is BACK! It's time to clean out those closets and earn some extra cash. New and used items may be sold. This event is held rain or shine. Register now, as this event sells out quickly!

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

DATE: Sunday, September 13273466 – 3A

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

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

No other vehicles are allowed in the lot. Early registration ends Friday, September 11th.

For anyone registering on the day of the flea market, the cost will increase from \$15.00 to \$40.00 per unit if space is still available.

NOTE: Pre-registration is highly recommended, visit our website at oceancountyparks.org or email: Jake at JHaug@co.ocean.nj.us for an application.

Make Your Own Handmade Map!

Come to Cedar Bridge Tavern Historic Site and be inspired by our collection of old maps that feature Cedar Bridge and then make your own using our map making kits! Will you make up your own place or draw a beloved location special to you? All supplies provided, parents must accompany children.

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

DATES: Sunday, September 20.....279466 – 9C

TIME: 1:00 - 2:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 6 – 12 years

Jakes Branch Equinox Late Hours

Come celebrate the equinox in style atop the Jakes Branch Tower! Jakes Branch will be keeping its doors open late to watch the sun set on its 40 ft. observation deck. A make-and-take craft will be available for the young and young-at-heart.

LOCATION: Nature Center, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Tuesday, September 22

TIME: 4:00 – 7:30 pm

FEE: Free

AGE: All

LECTURES

Insect Collecting 101

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

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

DATE: Saturday, June 27.....272166 – 2A

TIME: 1:00 - 2:30 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGES: 12 years – Adult

NEW! War at the Shore Documentary Film Screening

Be one of the first to view Ocean County's new American Revolution in Ocean County documentaries funded by the National Park Service! After viewing a selection of the documentaries, we'll discuss the personal experience of the American Revolution in this area.

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

DATE: Sunday, July 5.....279166 – 9A

TIME: 2:00 - 3:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: ALL

Honeybees of Cattus Island

A Power-Point presentation will illustrate the history, biology, social organizations, and utility of the European Honeybee. Participants will learn about the different kinds of bees, their jobs, hobby beekeeping and observe a live hive inspection. Hive inspection will be weather dependent.

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

DATE: Monday, July 6.....272166 – 2B

Thursday, September 17.....272166 – 2C

TIME: 2:00 - 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 12 years – Adult

Fireflies: Glints in the Dark

Fireflies are one of the most beloved insects worldwide. A welcome sight in the summer, fireflies are important for the ecosystems they inhabit, as well as an important indicator for the health of the environment. Enjoy a PowerPoint presentation on the ecology, biology, and diversity of our native fireflies. Head out for a walk to learn how to observe and identify these amazing creatures.

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

DATE: Saturday, July 11.....272166 – 2D

TIME: 7:30 - 10:00 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGES: 10 years - Adult



LECTURES

Floriography: The Victorian Language of Flowers

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

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

DATE: Monday, July 13.....272166 - 2E

TIME: 2:00 - 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 16 years – Adult

Magnificent Moths: Lecture & Mothing

In celebration of National Moth Week™, join a park naturalist for an evening presentation on the biology and beauty of these nocturnal insects. An indoor lecture will be followed by an outdoor mothing session, where we use lights to attract moths for observation, identification, and photography. Rather than using insect repellent, we encourage wearing a lightweight, long-sleeved shirt and pants.

LOCATION: Nature Center, Wells Mills County Park, Waretown

DATE: Wednesday, July 22.....274166 – 4A

TIME: 7:30 – 10:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 16 years – Adult

History of Environmentalism in the US

Join a talk about the history of environmentalism in the United States. We will touch on various landmarks of U.S. history and how concern for the environment evolved in the American consciousness.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, July 25.....275166 – 5A

TIME: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 10 years – Adult

Mad About Mint!

Refreshing on a summer’s day, cooling to the senses, both a tasty treat and a consistent cleaner, we are mad about mint! Join us as we explore the many plants that make up the mint family and enjoy some herbal concoctions created by these powerful plants. Please list any allergies at the time of registration.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Sunday, July 26.....275166 – 5B

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 14 years – Adult

Rawvolution!

Summer is the season of fresh food straight from the store or garden. Raw foods are so fresh, they aren’t even cooked! Join us as we look at, sample and create some vegan raw food recipes so good you may never look at cooked food the same.

Please list any food allergies at the time of registration.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, August 1.....275166 – 5C

TIME: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 14 years - Adult

LECTURES

The Mystery of Monarchs

Monarch butterflies are one of the most iconic species of butterflies in the world. However, in recent years, their numbers have plummeted, causing a huge push to save this unique species. Discover the world of the monarch butterfly, from their multi-generational migration to their unique lifecycle that relies on poisonous plants. We will also cover how to start a monarch friendly garden and how to raise monarch butterflies at home. Live monarch butterflies and caterpillars will be present to view at our NEW outdoor butterfly rearing house.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, August 15.....275166 – 5D

TIME: 2:00 – 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 12 years – Adult

Retaliation and Revenge in the Revolution

Discover the details of the bitter, civil war atmosphere experienced by the people of what is today Ocean County during the American Revolutionary War. Hear some of the real stories of personal grudges, family feuds, and neighbor against neighbor fights that characterized the Revolution in our backyards.

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

DATE: Sunday, August 16.....279166 – 9B

TIME: 2:00 - 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: ALL

Pollution and Its Effect on Our Ocean and Beaches

Join us for a lecture on pollution, its causes, and its effects on our ocean and beaches. We will also talk about ways to mitigate negative environmental impact on the ocean and the shore.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Sunday, August 16.....275166 – 5E

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 14 years – Adult

Butterflies of New Jersey

What do butterflies do besides flutter about and look pretty? Well, they are vital players in almost every ecosystem on the planet helping with pollination of flowering plants. How can certain species of butterfly migrate over 2500 miles? What is their average life span, and what is a host plant? All these questions and more will be answered during this presentation.

LOCATION: Lecture Room, Wells Mills County Park, Waretown

DATE: Tuesday, August 18

TIME: 2:00 – 3:30 pm.....274166 – 4B

TIME: 5:00 – 6:30 pm.....274166 – 4C

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 9 years – Adult

Salt Hay Farming

During colonial times, salt hay provided forage and pasture for livestock. Throughout the 19th and into the 20th centuries, salt hay farming was a common practice along the Jersey Shore. The task of cutting, raking, baling, and transporting salt hay was labor-intensive work. The salt hay was used as insulation and bedding material for agricultural crops, livestock feed, made into brown butcher paper, and other various uses. Join us as Horace Somes discusses his family's history in the harvesting of salt hay and delves into the rich history of this little-known industry.

LOCATION: Cloverdale Farm County Park Program Room, Barnegat

DATE: Saturday, August 29.....276166 – 6A

TIME: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 12 years - Adult

LECTURES

John Bacon Documentary

Join historian Tori Robbins for a viewing and behind the scenes discussion on the making of her documentary of the infamous Pine Robber Captain John Bacon.

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

DATE: Sunday, September 6.....279166 – 9C

TIME: 2:00 - 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: ALL

Cattus Island Living Shoreline/Marsh Restoration Project

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

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

DATE: Wednesday, September 9.....272166 – 2F

TIME: 6:00 - 7:00 pm

FEE\$ 5.00 per person

AGE: 12 years - Adult

WALKS

Night Hike

Experience the diverse beauty of Cloverdale under the light of the moon. Please be prepared to hike 2-3 miles on varied terrain. **Dress for the weather and wear comfortable sneakers or boots.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Friday, July 24.....276123 – 6A

TIME: 8:00 - 9:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 9 years - Adult

Wild Treats and Medicinal Eats

Ever walk through the woods and wonder what edible treats lurk in the undergrowth? Interested in alternative medicine and wondering what wild herbs work? Join us for this fun and informative walk and talk exploring the wild edibles and medicinal plants that grow in our area.

PICK UP: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Sunday, August 9.....275466 – 5D

TIME: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

FEE: \$8.00 per person

AGE: 14 years - Adult

Sunset and Full Moon Hike

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

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

DATE: Friday, August 28.....272466 – 2A

TIME: 7:00 - 9:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 8 years – Adult

NATURE, HISTORY & BIRDING WALKS

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

Owling on the Fairways-Atlantis Golf Course

Golf courses make great habitats for all kinds of species. Birds of prey can use the open areas as hunting grounds, while small birds and mammals lurk just within the wood line. During the day the birds of prey are mainly hawks. As night falls the nocturnal hunters like owls become active. We will be listening and looking for owls on the cart paths of the Ocean County Golf Course at Atlantis. **Come dressed for the weather.**

PICK-UP: Parking Lot, Wells Mills County Park, Waretown
DATE: Friday, July 24.....274536 – 4A
DEPARTURE/RETURN: 7:00 - 9:15 pm
FEE: \$6.00 per person AGE: 9 years – Adult

Owling on the Fairways-Forge Pond Golf Course

Golf courses make great habitat for all kinds of species. Birds of prey can use the open areas as hunting grounds, while small birds and mammals lurk just within the wood line. During the day the birds of prey are mainly hawks. As night falls the nocturnal hunters like owls become active. We will be listening and looking for owls on the cart paths of the Ocean County Golf Course at Forge Pond. **Come dressed for the weather.**

PICK-UP: Nature Center Parking Lot, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood
DATE: Friday, August 21.....274536 – 4B
DEPARTURE/RETURN: 6:30 - 9:00 pm
FEE: \$6.00 per person AGE: 9 years – Adult



VAN TOURS

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

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

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

Shorebirds at Brigantine

Traveling to Atlantic County

This is a great time to see early migrants at the Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge's Brigantine Unit. We will drive the 8-mile auto-loop in search of shorebirds and other water-loving birds. **Pack a lunch, dress for the weather and bring binoculars. Most viewing will be done sitting in the van. Long sleeves and insect repellent are recommended for short walks outside.**

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

DATE: Wednesday, July 1.....274516 – 4A

DATE: Thursday, August 6.....274516 – 4B

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 9 years -Adult



Colonial and Beach Nesting Birds of the Jersey Shore

Traveling to Ocean, Atlantic, Cape May & Cumberland Counties

Herons, egrets, ibis and other long-legged wading birds' nest in colonies up in trees. Oystercatchers, skimmers and terns' nest in colonies on sandy beaches. Come enjoy this summer spectacle of birds, which includes some rare and endangered species. **Be prepared for beach walks up to one mile. Pack a lunch and dress for the weather. Bring binoculars.**

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

DATE: Thursday, July 16.....274516 – 4C

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 9 years -Adult

VAN TOURS

Family Fossil Adventure Van Trip

We will be traveling to a fossil formation in Monmouth County where fossils were deposited during the late Cretaceous Period. During this trip we will walk a narrow trail to a Monmouth County fossil stream where we will have to climb down the bank to the stream. We will then walk in the stream searching for fossils with a trowel and sieve. **Wear old sneakers or water shoes. NO sandals, flip flops or crocs please! Must be able to walk on uneven ground, climb over downed trees and be able to descend and ascend muddy, slippery stream banks. Pack a lunch, water, a change of shoes, a towel, a small bag to store your findings, and garden trowel with a blade no longer than 6 inches, if you have one. We will have some to borrow. You will be allowed 5 fossils each. Children must be accompanied by an adult.**

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

DATE: Saturday, July 25.....274516 – 4D

DATE: Saturday, August 22.....274516 – 4E

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

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 9 years - Adults



* NEW * Pelican and Shorebird Boat and Van Trip

After the breeding season, adult and young Brown Pelicans leave their nests and disperse, heading north in search of less crowded feeding grounds. The largest, northernmost colony of these pelicans can be found in Barnegat Bay. Join us on a boat trip leaving from Tuckerton Seaport to explore the southern portion of Barnegat Bay's open water and channels looking for pelicans and shorebirds. After the boat trip, we will travel in the van to explore the local marshes looking for shorebirds before heading back to Wells Mills. **Bring lunch and dress for the weather. Layering is best and bring a change of outerwear as you may get wet on the boat. There will be an additional charge of \$30.00 for the boat tour. Please bring exact change.**

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

DATE: Friday, August 28.....274516 – 4F

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 8:30 am – 3:30 pm

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 9 years – Adult

A Taste of New Jersey

Traveling to Mercer County

We will go on a Jersey jaunt to pick apples, visit a vineyard and winery tasting room in a 150-year-old barn, and visit a farm where the raw milk from grass-fed cows is converted into slowly pasteurized 40-day-old Buttercup Brie and Havilah, an aged hard raw milk cheese. (We will not be touring the facilities, only visiting the sites and the stores.) Please bring money for purchases and wine tasting. **Be prepared for some walking on uneven ground, pack a lunch and dress for the weather.**

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

DATE: Thursday, September 3.....274516 – 4G

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 9 years – Adult

10 NEW PLAYGROUNDS IN YOUR OCEAN COUNTY PARKS

Ocean County has upgraded many of its playgrounds to be more inclusive for children of all abilities:



- Lake Shenandoah County Park - Lakewood**
- Freedom Fields County Park - Little Egg Harbor**
- Tip Seaman County Park - Tuckerton**
- Eno's Pond County Park - Lacey Township**
- Beaver Dam County Park - Point Pleasant**
- Ocean County Park (Lake) - Lakewood**
- Ocean County Park (Slide City) - Lakewood**
- Mill Creek County Park - Pine Beach**
- Patriots County Park and Sport Complex - Jackson**
- Cattus Island County Park - Toms River**



Patriots County Park
Jackson
80 persons



John C. Bartlett Jr. County Park at
Berkeley Island
110 persons



Robert J. Miller Air Park
Berkeley Township
100 persons



Ocean County Park
Lakewood
500 persons



A. Paul King County Park
Manahawkin
110 persons



Stanley Tip Seaman County Park
Tuckerton
95 persons

Examples of Ocean County Parks' Picnic and Pavillion Facilities



Group Picnics - Picnic Locations & Maximum Capacities

- A. Paul King County Park, Manahawkin Pavilion 110 persons
- John C. Bartlett, Jr. County Park at Berkeley Island, Berkeley Twp. Pavilion 110 persons
- Ocean County Park, Lakewood 500 persons
- Robert J. Miller Airpark, Berkeley Twp. Pavilion 100 persons
- Stanley Tip Seaman County Park, Tuckerton 95 persons
- Wells Mills County Park, Waretown 99 persons
- Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood 74 persons
- Patriots County Park, Jackson Pavilion 80 persons
- Cedar Bridge Tavern Historic Site, Barnegat 50 persons

All reservations must be made AT LEAST two weeks before the requested date for picnics held between April 1 and November 1.

A fee is charged based upon the size of the group, and proof of insurance is required for groups of 300 or more persons. Reservation Forms and payment may be submitted by mail or in person to the Parks Administration Office in Toms River; or in person at Jakes Branch County Park in Beachwood and Wells Mills County Park in Waretown.

Fill out our Pavilion Reservation (available oceancountyparks.org) & Rules Form or call 732-506-9090.

***No reservations on holidays

***Beer in cans or kegs, wine in wine boxes are allowed by permit only

***No alcoholic beverages are permitted outside the picnic area, including sports fields, trails, and Nature Centers

For small gatherings of less than 25 people, visit one of these parks:

- Freedom Fields County Park, Little Egg Harbor Twp
- Mill Creek County Park, Berkeley Township
- Eno's Pond County Park, Lacey Township
- Patriots County Park Field Sports Complex, Jackson
- Beaver Dam Creek County Park, Point Pleasant
- Lake Shenandoah County Field and Sports Complex, Lakewood
- Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat Township
- Mantoloking Bridge Fishing Pier, Brick Township
- Cattus Island County Park, Toms River Township
- Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood
- Wells Mills County Park, Waretown
- Stanley H. "Tip" Seaman County Park, Tuckerton
- Robert J. Miller Airpark, Berkeley Twp.
- Ocean County Park, Lakewood
- John C. Bartlett, Jr. County Park at Berkeley Island, Berkeley Township
- A. Paul King County Park, Stafford Township, Manahawkin

Fill out our Pavilion Reservation (available oceancountyparks.org) & Rules Form or call 732-506-9090.

Your Summer Starts on the First Tee

Good Friends. Great Rounds.

FORGE POND

Golf Course
Brick, NJ
732-920-8899

301 Chambers Bridge Road
Brick, NJ 08723



ATLANTIS

Golf Course
Little Egg Harbor, NJ
609-296-2444

261 Country Club Boulevard
Little Egg Harbor, NJ 08087

Night Golf @ Forge Pond

June 26th | Sept 25th | Oct 23rd

ATLANTIS GOLF COURSE

2026 Events

All-American Open – July 2nd
Bartlett Fall Tournament – Oct 1st

2026 "UP TO PAR" GOLF CLINICS

WITH CHRIS NELSON | \$35 PER PERSON

CALL OR TEXT CHRIS AT 908-278-2775, EMAIL CHRIS@UPTOPARGOLF.COM,
OR SIGNUP DIRECTLY ONLINE AT WWW.BOOKUTPG.COM

ATLANTIS

Women's Clinic

June 4th 2:00-3:30

July 10th 4:00-5:30

Short Game Clinic

June 4th 4:00-5:30

June 26th 5:00-6:30

July 10th 2:00-3:00

Intro to Golf

June 26th 3:00-4:30

FORGE POND

Women's Clinic

July 7th 4:00-5:30

August 4th 4:00-5:30

Short Game Clinic

June 2nd 3:00-4:30

July 7th 2:00-3:30

Intro to Golf

June 2nd 5:00-6:30

Visit OceanCountyParks.Org For Course Details, Rates And More.
Book Online or Call Pro Shop!

OCEAN COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT



250 CHALLENGE



Challenge Option 1- 250 Miles

Complete 250 miles of outdoor recreation in Ocean County Parks & Recreation facilities, including Ocean County Natural Lands Trust Properties.

Join us on one of our hiking programs, enjoy scenic walks or bike rides on the Barnegat Branch Trail!

Challenge Option 2- 25 Miles

Complete 25 miles of outdoor recreation at Ocean County Parks & Recreation facilities or at our Ocean County Natural Lands Trust Properties.

Challenge Option 3

Visit 25 Ocean County Parks & Recreation facilities, Natural Lands Trust Properties, or visit our newly remodeled, all-inclusive playgrounds.



Challenge Option 4

Take part in 25 active and passive recreational programs or activities within our Parks system or Ocean County Natural Lands Trust Properties.

Join us for educational programs, van tours, craft classes, stargazing events, or play a round of golf!

Enjoy our many age-appropriate playgrounds, special events, and concert series.

Prefer solo time? Why not go birdwatching, nature journaling, or take photos in your favorite park?

See the Ocean County Parks & Recreation Summer and Fall Program Guide & Newsletter or visit www.oceancountyparks.org for fun, upcoming events!

Once you complete the challenge, submit your self-tracking form to Cloverdale Farm County Park to receive a certificate of achievement and to be entered into a raffle to win an Ocean County Parks and Recreation Gift Card for each challenge completed!

Deadline for submissions is January 4, 2027.

Sponsored by the Ocean County Board of Commissioners

Pick up forms at your local Ocean County Park or follow the link below:

<https://www.co.ocean.nj.us/webcontentfiles//1a702130-af1b-4426-a22c-b9a0fd6d4870.pdf>



Kids Summer Spectacular 2026

Free Kids Shows

John C. Bartlett Jr.
County Park
at
Berkeley Island
Thursdays 1:00pm



- 7/9 - Magic of S Patrick
- 7/16 - Dino Kids Rock!
- 7/23 - Tom Durnin the Magic Man
- 7/30 - Ken the Magician
- 8/6 - Andrew's Big Show
- 8/13 - Pirate Vince
- 8/20 - Krazy Kevin
- 8/27 - Lee's Circus Extravaganza

SUMMER 2026 EVENTS

BEACH BALL BLAST

Thursday
July 23
5:00pm-8:30pm

OC PARKS
Admin Bayfront
Fields
Bandon Road,
TOMS RIVER

FOOD TRUCKS
CRAFTS
GAMES
NATURE WALKS

LIVE MUSIC
KIDS GAMES
DANCING

1198 Bandon Rd
Toms River

399 Brennan Concourse
Berkeley Township

SUMMER PICNIC PARTY
at the John C. Bartlett Jr. County Park at Berkeley Island

Thursday June 25 5:00 - 8:30pm

FOOD TRUCKS
LIVE MUSIC
SPRAY PARK
KIDS SHOWS

TOUCH-A-TRUCK Festival

Jakes Branch
County Park
1100 Double Trouble Rd.
Beachwood

Friday, June 26 10am-1pm

*Sensory friendly 1 hour (10-11am)
no horns, sirens or flashing lights for
community members with special needs

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

1100 Double Trouble Rd
Beachwood

1198 Bandon Rd.
Toms River

**Stars & Stripes Spectacular:
Wilbur Wittemann Patriotic Band & Drone Show**
Thursday, July 2 7:30pm

Ocean County Parks & Recreation Administration Office
1198 Bandon Road Toms River

**Summer Kick-Off
Beach Campfire**

LIVE MUSIC, SUNSET, MARSHMALLOW ROASTING

Saturday
June 27th
7 - 9pm

All Ages
FREE

Barnegat Lighthouse State Park, Long Beach Island

208 Broadway
Barnegat Light



Carousel of Music 2026

Ocean County Parks
& Recreation Administration Office
1198 Bandon Road Toms River

Fridays - Start time 6:30pm

Steppin Out

June 26

**Stars & Stripes Spectacular:
Wilbur Wittemann Patriotic Band
& Drone Show (7:30pm Start)**

Thursday, July 2

Piano Man Meets Rocket Man

July 3

70s Rock Parade

July 10

80s Revolution

July 17

The Chiclettes

July 24

Fleetwood Mac Experience

July 31

Sensational Soul Cruisers

August 7

The Kootz Band

August 14

Underwater Airlines

August 21

Mushmouth

August 28

Erich Cawalla & The Uptown Band

September 4

Gille Park

102 Manchester Ave. Forked River

Tuesdays - Start Time 6:30pm

Exit 102

July 28

Shallow Green

August 25

Heritage Gazebo Bay Blvd., Lavallette

Sunday - Start Time 7pm

USA 250th Anniversary

Patriotic Big Band

August 23

Veterans Park: 489 Forest Hills Pkwy

Berkeley Township

Wednesdays - Start Time 7:30pm

Super TransAm

July 1

Austin City Nights

July 15

Alotta Colada

Saturday, August 1 4-8pm

Step By Step

August 12

Garden State Radio

August 26

Ocean County Library

101 Washington Street

Toms River

Thursdays - Start Time 6:30pm

Toms River Municipal Band

July 2

Toms River Municipal Band

July 16

RB Express

July 23

Toms River Municipal Band

July 30

Sentimental Journey Big Band

August 6

Toms River Municipal Band

August 13

Wilbur Wittemann Big Band

August 20

Brass Tacks

August 27

Waterfront Park

10th Street & Shore Ave.

Ship Bottom

Thursdays - Start time 6:30pm

Simmerr

July 2

Pure Petty

July 9

Danny's 52nd Street Band

July 16

Tequila Rose band

July 23

The Counterfeiters Band

July 30

The Pickles Band

August 6

Verdict

August 13

Dread Pilot Roberts

August 20

Rated R Band

August 27

Triple Rail Turn

September 3



Bring a Blanket or Beach Chair
See our website for more
www.oceancountyparks.org

PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

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

Please note: Children must be potty trained.

All classes are held in the program room at the

Park's Administration Office in Toms River unless otherwise noted.

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am FEE: \$5.00 per class AGES: 3 – 5 Years

Little Ace's Tennis

This program is designed to teach children the basics of the game of tennis. Children will get a feel for a racket and will learn the basic groundstrokes and footwork for the game. Drills and games will be incorporated so that kids will have loads of fun learning a new sport. Rackets will be provided. Please wear sneakers and bring a drink.

LOCATION: Tennis Courts 1 & 2, Beaver Dam Creek County Park, Point Pleasant

DATE: Tuesday, June 30.....273021 – 3A

TIME: 9:00 – 10:00 am

Shore Is Fun

Your preschooler will learn about the magical wonders along the Jersey Shore. Join us for a fun hour of crafts, stories and games. It shore will be fun.

DATE: Wednesday, July 1.....271021 – 1A

Happy Birthday America

America's birthday is July 4th and we're celebrating. Red, white and blue crafts, stories and games are all part of the fun. No birthday is complete without a slice of birthday cake! Please list food allergies at time of registration.

DATE: Thursday, July 2271021 – 1B

Camp Crafty

Camp Crafty will be a week filled with crafts, games and FUN! Each day will be a different theme, and some activities may be outdoors, weather permitting. Please bring a water bottle for your child.

DATE: Monday – Friday, July 6 – 10271021 – 1C

TIME: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

FEE: \$ 20.00 per child

W Is For Watermelon

What a Melon! Let's have some fun with picnic games, stories and crafts. We will finish with a true summer treat, a slice of watermelon. Please list any food allergies at time of registration.

DATE: Tuesday, July 14271021 – 1D

Color Wave

Stories, games and crafts galore, while we explore all the colors of the rainbow!

DATE: Wednesday, July 15271021 – 1E

Snowballs in July

Come and cool down with us, as we imagine snow in July! We will make cool crafts and listen to snowy stories. We will end up with a cool summer treat! Please list food allergies at time of registration.

DATE: Thursday, July 16271021 – 1F

Mermaid Tales

Splash into the ocean and swim with the mermaids. We will make bejeweled mermaid crafts and listen to mermaid tales.

DATE: Tuesday, July 21271021 – 1H

PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

Ice Cream Sundae Party

Have a double dip of fun as we celebrate everyone's favorite frozen treat. We will sprinkle the hour away with yummy stories, cool ice cream crafts, and finish up with a super sundae party. Please list any food allergies at time of registration.

DATE: Wednesday, July 22.....271021 – 1G

TIME: 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Indoor Tennis for Preschoolers

Come join in on the tennis fun! In this beginner's Pre-K class, we will lay the groundwork for tennis by learning the fundamentals of the sport. We will go over forehands, backhands, and volleys and play a variety of lively games. Rackets will be available. Please wear sneakers and bring a drink. This class is indoors, so please dress appropriately.

LOCATION: Beach Complex, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Tuesday, July 21.....273021 – 3B

TIME: 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Starry, Starry Night

Gaze at the stars, the moon and the planets. We will explore outer space through stories, crafts and games.

DATE: Tuesday, July 28.....271021 – 1I

Pirate Treasure

Cast off for a fun adventure! Come and act like a pirate for the day. We will set sail in search of pirate treasure with stories, crafts and games.

DATE: Wednesday, July 29.....271021 – 1J

Wild Wings

Take a flight of fancy and discover the wonderful world of wings. From the little sparrow to the majestic eagle, our winged friends are all around us. We will soar with stories, games and fine feathered crafts!

DATE: Wednesday, August 5.....271021 – 1K

Undersea Adventure

Let's explore the amazing undersea world and the unique creatures that live there. We will create silly sea creatures, play games and listen to stories.

DATE: Thursday, August 6.....271021 – 1L

It's a Pizza

If you like pizza, then you are invited to a pizza party! There will be cheesy pizza crafts, games with garnish galore and we will finish with our own handmade pizza pie! Please list any food allergies at time of registration.

DATE: Tuesday, August 11.....271021 – 1M

TIME: 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Frog Frolics

Join us and learn about the slippery adventures of frogs. We will have fun making froggy crafts, play games and share a story all about frogs.

DATE: Wednesday, August 12.....271021 – 1N

How to Make a Mud Pie

Kids love to get messy and today will be all about tactile expression. We will make things like home-made play dough, bubble art and more!

DATE: Thursday, August 13271021 – 1O

PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

I want S'more

Let's get together and celebrate everyone's favorite gooey, campfire treat! We'll make campfire crafts, read a story and the best part of all...eat a gooey s'more. Please list any food allergies at time of registration.

DATE: Tuesday, August 18.....271021 – 1P

TIME: 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Little Picasso

Do you have a budding Picasso in your family? Your preschooler will experience finger painting, fabric painting, sponge painting and more in this class.

DATE: Wednesday, August 19271021 – 1Q

Oh, My Whiskers!

Who doesn't love a funny, frisky, fur-ball kitty! Join us for some whisker twitching fun with the roaring lion's little cousin.

DATE: Wednesday, August 26.....271021 – 1R

Radical Reptiles

They crawl, they climb, and some even swim! Explore the world of reptiles through crafts, stories and games.

DATE: Thursday, August 27271021 – 1S

Railroad Fun

Choo! Choo! All aboard the OC Parks railroad to FUN! We will read stories, play games, and make crafts, all about trains.

DATE: Wednesday, September 2271021 – 1T

A Is for Apple

Red, green or yellow, apples are a tasty treat any time. We will create tasty apple crafts, read a story or two and finish with a crunchy apple snack. Please list any food allergies at time of registration.

DATE: Thursday, September 3.....271021 – 1U

Sunny Sunflowers

Join us as we look at our gigantic sunny friend, the "sunflower". We will spend the morning making flower crafts, reading stories, and playing games.

DATE: Wednesday, September 9.....271021 – 1V

Adorable Owls

Hoo-Hoo Hurray! It's Owl Day! Take a flight of fancy and we will "Owl" make adorable crafts and listen to owl tales.

DATE: Wednesday, September 16271021 – 1W

High Five

Hands up for fun! Using your child's handprints and cutouts, we will create all kinds of fun and other colorful crafts.

DATE: Thursday, September 17.....271021 – 1X

Autumn Explosion

Orange, red, gold and brown, falling leaves are all around! Fall is just around the corner, so join us as we have some fun with the radiant colors of fall with stories, games and colorful fall crafts!

DATE: Tuesday, September 22.....271021 – 1Y

Down on the Farm

Oink, Moo and Cock-a-Doodle Doo! A farm is a noisy, busy place and our little farmers will be busy making animal farm crafts and listening to stories about life on the farm.

DATE: Thursday, September 24271021 – 1Z

FUN FOR KIDS

Youth 3 Day Sports Sampler

This is the perfect class to introduce your preschooler to a variety of different sports. Our sports staff will introduce different activities and fun games to allow your child the opportunity to develop skills specific to the sport being taught on that day. Sports in this sampler class will include tennis, soccer, and T-ball/kickball. **Please wear sneakers and bring a drink.**

LOCATION: Tennis Courts 1 & 2, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood
DATE: Tuesday - Thursday, July 14 - 16.....273021 – 3C
TIME: 9:00 – 10:00 am
FEE: \$10.00 per child AGE: 3 - 6 years

Make a Splash

Water you waiting for?! Dive into the splash zone and have some summer fun in our Make a Splash class where we will be playing various summer-themed games that are bound to help kids cool off while having a great time playing and being active in the sun! Make sure to wear appropriate clothing because many of the games that will be played include water!

LOCATION: Soccer Field E, Patriots County Park, Jackson
DATE: Monday, June 29.....273332 – 3A
TIME: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
LOCATION: Soccer Field, Beaver Dam County Park, Point Pleasant
DATE: Wednesday, July 29.....273332 – 3B
TIME: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
LOCATION: Soccer Field 1, Freedom Fields County Park, Little Egg Harbor
DATE: Thursday, July 30.....273332 – 3C
TIME: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
FEE: \$5.00 per child AGE: 4 – 7 years

Dino Day

Does your little one love dinosaurs and want to be a Paleontologist when they grow up? For this fun filled day we will learn about the dinos that roamed our area millions of years ago, how paleontologists discover fossils, play dino-themed games, go on a dino hike and even make our own fossils. **This will be an indoor/ outdoor adventure, so please be prepared with close-toed shoes, sunscreen, bug spray, a hat and water.**

LOCATION: Cooper Environmental Center, Lecture Room, Cattus Island County Park, Toms River
DATE: Wednesday, July 22.....272332 – 2A
Tuesday, August 11.....272332 – 2B
TIME: 1:00 – 3:30 pm
FEE: \$10.00 per child AGE: 4 - 7 years

** NEW ** K Pop Dance & Play

Kids will learn a dance choreography to a song from the K Pop movie! They will play games & make new friends in this fun-filled class for boys and girls. Please have your child wear sneakers & a K Pop shirt if available!
*This is a drop-off program, though you are welcome to sit outside the class or take a scenic walk. **Please have a check for \$10 payable to Gabrielle Molino due the day of class.**

LOCATION: Beach Complex Program Room, Ocean County Park, Lakewood
DATE: Monday, July 6.....273332 – 3D
TIME: 12:00 pm – 12:50 pm AGE: 5 – 6 years
DATE: Tuesday, June 30.....273332 – 3E
TIME: 12:00 pm – 12:50 pm AGE: 7- 10 years
FEE: \$5.00 registration fee per person

FUN FOR KIDS

Musical Muscles

Children will explore multiple forms of fitness and learn about rhythm. From dance to cardio drumming to kickboxing, students will enjoy learning a variety of ways to exercise to music. We may go outdoors for one of the classes. Please wear sneakers and bring a mat. *This is a drop-off program, though you are welcome to sit outside the glass walled classroom or take a scenic walk! **Please have a check for \$20.00 made payable to Gabrielle Molino on the first day of class.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Monday, July 20 & July 27.....273332 – 3F

TIME: 12:00 – 12:50 pm AGE: 5 – 6 years

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

DATE: Tuesdays, July 21 & 28.....273332 – 3G

TIME: 12:00 – 12:50 pm AGE: 7 – 10 years

FEE: \$5.00 registration fee per person

Naturalist Encounters

Come and visit a Naturalist at Mantoloking Bridge County Park. Each encounter will feature information on a specific Barnegat Bay topic. The Naturalist will be available during a two-hour period. Just drop in to discover more about the topic of the week and participate in a simple make-and-take project. Rain will cancel this program.

LOCATION: Mantoloking Bridge County Park, Brick

TIME: 10:00 am- 12:00 pm

DATE: Wednesday, July 1.....Oysters, Clams, and Other Shelled Friends

DATE: Tuesday, July 7.....Crabs and Crabbing

DATE: Wednesday, July 22.....Boats and Boating

DATE: Wednesday, August 19.....Fishing

FEE: FREE

AGE: 5 - 10 years

Homeschool Gym - North

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

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

DATE: Mondays, September 14 – October 19.....273332 – 3H

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

DATE: Mondays, September 14 – October 19.....273332 – 3I

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

DATE: Mondays, September 14 – October 19.....273332 – 3J

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

FEE: \$14.00 per child

Craft Camp Fun

This will be a week filled with crafts, games and FUN! Each day will be a different theme, and some activities may be outdoors, weather permitting. Please bring a water bottle for your child.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Monday – Friday, August 31 - Sept. 4271332 – 1A

TIME: 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

FEE: \$20.00 per person

AGE: 6 – 8 years

FUN FOR KIDS

Pass The Paint Brush, Please!

With paint brush in hand, your child will stretch their imagination and create their own works of art.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Tuesday, August 25271332 – 1B

TIME: 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

FEE: \$20.00 per person

AGE: 6 – 8 years

Field Day Games

Come join us as we are hosting our version of FIELD DAY! Be prepared to get WET as several of our games will involve WATER to help cool you down during the heat of summer! Fun will be had by all. There will be medals for all participants.

Please wear sneakers and bring a drink.

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

DATE: Wednesday, July 29.....273332 – 3K

TIME: 9:30 – 10:30 am

LOCATION: Soccer Field 1, Freedom Fields County Park, Little Egg Harbor

DATE: Thursday, July 30.....273332 – 3L

TIME: 9:30 – 10:30 am

FEE: \$5.00 per child

AGE: 6 - 9 years



Nature Explorers

Does your child have a curious mind about nature? Give your little explorer the opportunity to learn and play through environmental exploration. Join a park naturalist with hikes, exploratory activities, crafts, live animal interactions and more. Please be prepared for outdoor fun and dress for the weather with closed-toed shoes, sunscreen, bug spray and water. **Rain or Shine.**

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

DATE: Tuesday, August 18– Friday, August 21.....272332 – 2C

TIME: 1:00 – 3:30 pm

FEE: \$40.00 per child

AGE: 6 – 10 years

Make Your Own Flower Press

Preserve your summer flowers forever! Kids will receive a wooden flower press to paint and decorate. We will then prepare the paper and hardware necessary to make our flower press functional and finish up with a short lesson on how to press flowers.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Thursday, July 30.....275332 – 5A

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 6 – 12 years

FUN FOR KIDS

Traveling Tennis

We're bringing tennis to a court near you. Staff will teach the basics of tennis to children and teens throughout the county. Instruction will include basic rules and court positioning. Participants will practice many skills including groundstrokes, volleying, and serving. Kids will be divided into age groups. Tennis rackets and balls will be provided.

Pre-registration is mandatory. Please wear sneakers and bring a drink.

*LOCATION: Tennis Courts, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Monday through Thursday, July 6 - 9.....273332 – 3M

TIME: 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

*LOCATION: Tennis Courts, Magee Ave & The Bay Front, Lavallette

DATE: Monday through Thursday, July 13 - 16.....273332 – 3N

TIME: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

*LOCATION: Tennis Court, Wildwood Ave & E. Atlantic Ave, Ocean Gate

DATE: Monday through Thursday, July 20 - 23.....273332 – 3O

TIME: 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

*LOCATION: Tennis Courts, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Monday through Thursday, July 27 – July 30.....273332 – 3P

TIME: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

*LOCATION: Pickleball Courts, Stanley H. "Tip" Seaman County Park, Tuckerton

DATE: Monday through Thursday, August 3 - 6.....273332 – 3Q

TIME: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

FEE: \$12.00 per child

AGE: 6 – 15 years

3-Day Sports Sampler

This 3-day sports sampler allows participants to try something new every time they step onto the field! We will go over some of the basic rules followed by some drills so participants will have the skills necessary to play. Sports will include basketball, disc golf, and wiffle ball/kickball. **Please wear sneakers and bring a drink.**

LOCATION: Basketball Court, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Tuesday - Thursday, July 14 - 16.....273332 – 3R

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$12.00 per child

AGE: 7 - 12 years

Youth Quarterback & Wide Receiver Clinic

This quarterback and wide receiver clinic is designed for children who have little to no experience playing football but are interested in those positions. Children will learn the proper mechanics of throwing, catching, and handing the ball off to running backs. Instruction will also include proper footwork, agility exercises, and running different routes.

No equipment is required, only comfortable clothing, sneakers or cleats, and please bring a drink.

LOCATION: Soccer Field 1, Freedom Fields County Park, Little Egg Harbor

DATE: Monday & Wednesday, August 3 & 5.....273332 – 3S

TIME: 9:30 – 10:30 am

FEE: \$8.00 per child

AGE: 8 - 12 years

Beginners Beach Volleyball Clinic

Do you like playing in the sand? Come join us for this fun 2-week volleyball clinic. We will start every session with basic skills and drills followed by a match. Teams will be changed several times to allow children to play with new teammates.

This class will be taught by a former college volleyball player. Please dress appropriately and bring a drink.

LOCATION: Beach Front, A. Paul King County Park, Manahawkin

DATE: Tuesdays, July 28 & August 4.....273332 – 3T

TIME: 9:30 – 10:30 am

FEE: \$8.00 per child

AGE: 9 - 12 years

FUN FOR KIDS

Spinning Tales into Songs: Intro to Folksong Writing

No musical training required! New Jersey's Troubadour and 2024 Heritage Fellowship Award recipient Valerie Vaughn will sing her original story songs about the Revolutionary War in our area. Then she will discuss how she writes her lyrical tales and helps you learn how you can also be a song writer or lyricist by juggling words and rhymes into songs! As Valerie says, "Every song tells a story and there's a story behind every song." A pad and pencil would be helpful!

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

DATE: Saturday, August 8.....279332 – 9A

TIME: 1:00 - 2:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 9 – 13 years

Kids Fossil Adventure Van Trip

We will be traveling to a fossil formation in Monmouth County where fossils were deposited during the late Cretaceous Period. During this trip we will walk a narrow trail to a Monmouth County fossil stream where we will have to climb down the bank to the stream. We will then walk in the stream searching for fossils with a trowel and sieve. Wear old sneakers or water shoes. **NO sandals, flip flops or crocs please! Must be able to walk on uneven ground, climb over downed trees and be able to descend and ascend muddy, slippery stream banks. Pack a lunch, water, a change of shoes, a towel, a small bag to store your findings, and garden trowel with a blade no longer than 6 inches, if you have one. We will have some to borrow. You will be allowed 5 fossils each.**

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

DATE: Thursday, July 9.....274112 – 4A

DATE: Thursday, August 13.....274112 – 4B

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

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 9 - 15 years

** NEW ** Disc Golf Basics

Join us for a fun and active disc golf program perfect for beginners and those looking to improve their skills! Participants will learn the rules and objectives of the sport and be taught throwing & putting skills along with game strategies. Sessions will include practice drills, mini challenges and time to play on both a temporary course and the permanent course at Ocean County Park. Discs will be provided, and all participants should bring a water bottle and come dressed for outdoor play! Prizes awarded to all players!

LOCATION: Disc Golf Course, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Tuesday & Wednesday, August 4 & August 5273332 – 3V

TIME: 5:00 – 6:30 pm

DATE: Tuesday & Wednesday, September 15 & September 16.....273332 – 3W

TIME: 5:00 – 6:30 pm

FEE: \$40.00 per person

AGE: 9 – 17 years



FUN FOR KIDS

Two-Day Shark Camp

Traveling to Monmouth County

In celebration of the annual Discovery Shark Week™, come out and join us for two fin-filled days of abso-tooth-ely jaw-some activities! On day one, we will travel to a Monmouth County fossil stream to sieve for shark teeth from the late Cretaceous Period. Wear old sneakers or water shoes. NO sandals, flip flops or crocs please! **Must be able to walk on uneven ground, climb over downed trees and be able to descend and ascend muddy, slippery stream banks. Pack a lunch, water, a change of shoes, a towel, a small bag to store your findings, and garden trowel with a blade no longer than 6 inches, if you have one. We will have some to borrow. You will be allowed 5 fossils each. On day two, we will visit our modern-day shark friends at Jenkinson's Aquarium. Pack a lunch, sun protection, and bug repellent both days. There will be an additional fee to enter the aquarium (\$12.00 for ages 11 and under, \$18.00 for ages 12 and up).** Be sure to bring money to cover this fee, as well as extra for the gift shop if you would like.

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

DATE: Tuesday, July 14 & Wednesday, July 15.....274112 – 4C

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm AGE: 10 – 13 years

FEE: \$28.00 per child

Sea Treasure Clay Plate

This craft will involve the use of air-drying clay and decorative seashells and other treasures. Come by and make your own souvenir clay plate to take home!

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Thursday, August 6.....275332 – 5B

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: \$10.00 per person AGE: 10 – 14 years

Bumming Around the Barrier Island Van Trip

Long Beach Island is more than a vacation destination; it is a place of ecological importance for both animals and people alike. We will travel to the norther tip of LBI to explore Barnegat Lighthouse State Park. We will learn about the history of Old Barney and then walk along the inlet and through the last remaining maritime forest on LBI, discussing what we see along the way. Then we will head to the bayside to go seining and see what we find living in the bay. If weather and time permits, we may climb the lighthouse. Come prepared to get wet and sandy. Shoes must be worn in the water while seining. We may walk up to a mile in the sand. **Bring a change of shoes, towel and pack a lunch with plenty of water, insect repellent, and sunscreen. Also, bring binoculars if you have them. An additional fee to climb the lighthouse is \$1 for ages 10 & 11, \$3 for 12 -15. Please bring exact change. Van transportation will be provided.**

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

DATE: Thursday, July 30.....274112 – 4D

DATE: Tuesday, August 11.....274112 – 4E

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

FEE: \$14.00 per child AGE: 10 - 15 years

Kids Days on the Bay Camp

Traveling by van to various locations in Ocean County

Come explore Barnegat Bay with us on this multiday camp. We will go on a different adventure each day using different tools, like snorkeling or seining, to explore different parts of the bay. We will board the Parks pontoon boat, Bay Cruiser II, for an informative trip around Cattus Island. **Please be prepared each day with a packed lunch, plenty of water, sunscreen, bug spray, hat, sunglasses, a bathing suit (or quick drying clothes), shoes fit for the water, towel and extra outfit. This will be an outdoor program only, so it is weather dependent. Must be able to swim.**

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

DATE: Tuesday, August 4 – Thursday, August 6.....272332 – 2D

TIME: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

FEE: \$65.00 per child

AGE: 11– 15 years

FUN FOR KIDS

Surf Fishing Clinic

Traveling by van to various locations in Ocean County

With the help of a prize-winning, professional fisherman you will learn hands-on what baits, hooks, rods and reels to use to catch yourself a keeper! No experience necessary. All supplies and bait will be provided by Grumpy's Bait & Tackle. Bring a packed lunch, plenty of water, sunscreen, sunglasses, bug spray, towel, hat & quick dry clothes (bathing suits welcome). This will be an outdoor program only, so it is weather dependent.

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

DATE: Wednesday, July 8.....272332 – 2E

TIME: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm FEE: \$30.00 per child AGE: 12 -16 years

Intermediate Beach Volleyball Clinic

This class is for intermediate volleyball players looking to hone their skill in this 2- week clinic. This class will consist of more advanced drills and strategies followed by a match. This class will be taught by a former college volleyball player. Please dress appropriately and bring a drink.

LOCATION: Beachfront, A. Paul King County Park, Manahawkin

DATE: Tuesdays, July 28 – August 4273332 – 3U

TIME: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm FEE: \$8.00 per child AGE: 13 - 16 years

SMALL GROUP OUTINGS

Rice's Market & Peddlers Village

Join us for a fall day in the Pennsylvania Countryside. Our first stop will be at Rice's Market, the oldest in Bucks County, then on to Peddlers Village. The rest of the afternoon will be on your own for lunch, shopping and enjoying the annual scarecrow festival on display.

PICK-UP: Depart from program room, lower-level parking lot, Parks Administration office, Toms River

Date: Tuesday, September 22.....271466 – 1A

TIME: Small van departs 8:30 am approximate return time home is 6:00 pm

FEE: \$15.00 per person (includes round trip transportation) AGE: Adult

CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS

Calligraphy

Learn calligraphy with Diane Israel, local artist. During this program, you will be cutting nibs into goose feathers to create your own handmade quills. Parchment paper will be provided so you can create your very own calligraphy project just in time for the 250th anniversary of our nation! **Please bring \$25.00 in exact change for the instructor and materials.**

LOCATION: Cloverdale Farm County Park Program Room, Barnegat

DATE: Wednesday, July 1.....276186 – 6A

TIME: 1:00 - 3:00 pm FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee AGE: 12 years-Adult

Moravian Stars

Join Gale Maddaloni for an early Fourth of July crafting adventure as we try our hands at the ancient art of origami by creating three classically designed Moravian Stars. The two stars you create will vary in size and offer a unique twist to your home décor. No origami experience is needed. **Please bring \$25.00 in exact change for the instructor and materials. Additional star kits can be purchased for \$3.00.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Thursday, July 2.....276186 – 6B

TIME: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm FEE: \$5.00 per person registration AGE: Adult

CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS

Create Your Own Walking Stick

Spring hiking season is here, and what better way to kick it off than to make your very own personalized walking stick? Join us for an afternoon with Brad Koller who will teach us how to handcraft a beautiful walking stick. Wood, tools, gloves, and aprons will be provided. **The program will be held outside so please dress for the weather.**

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

Children ages 8 – 13 years old must be accompanied by an adult.

LOCATION: Cedar Bridge Tavern, 200 Old Half – Way Road, Barnegat

DATE: Sunday, July 12279186 – 9A

TIME: 12:00 - 3:00 pm FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee AGE: 8 years – Adult

Needle Felted Wool Dryer Balls: Beginner

Wool dryer balls are eco-friendly, reusable, and natural fabric softeners that reduce drying time for laundry. We will be using basic needle felting techniques to create our own dryer balls with a simple floral design. Each person will be able to make two dryer balls. This is a beginner level class, so no prior felting experience is necessary. All supplies will be provided by the instructor.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Thursday, July 16.....275186 – 5A

TIME: 6:30 – 7:30 pm FEE: \$8.00 per person AGE: Adult

Recycled Wind Chimes

Create a beautiful, colorful wind chime made from pre-made kiln wine bottle glass rounds alongside instructor, Mary May. This project is sure to offer you and your friends some summertime fun while creating a whimsical, decorative piece of art for your porch.

Please bring \$45.00 in exact change for the instructor and materials. A \$3.00 fee will apply if you wish to add an additional glass round.

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Friday, July 17.....276186 – 6C

TIME: 10:00 am - 1:30 pm FEE: \$5.00 per person registration AGE: Adult

Family Woven Fish Mobile

Join Mary May as she ventures out into new waters to teach us how to create this simple, whimsical woven fish mobile.

Please have \$10 in exact change for the instructor and materials.

LOCATION: Dock, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Saturday, July 18.....276186 – 6D

TIME: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm FEE: \$5.00 per team (one child/one adult) registration fee AGE: 8 years – Adult

Natural Dye: Indigo Clay Resist

Be a part of this fun and exploratory art class. Please dress for the weather as this program will take place outside. If there is inclement weather, we will move the class inside.

LOCATION: Dock, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Saturday, July 18.....276186 – 6E

TIME: 1:00 - 3:00 pm FEE: \$10.00 per person AGE: 12 years - Adult

Woven Wheat 6-inch Heart

Wheat weaving was a technique used all over the world in regions where grain grew. Because of the Industrial Revolution and changes made in harvesting methods, the art and craft of wheat weaving was almost completely lost. Join us as Christine Metzler helps us rediscover this once common and relaxing art form by creating a woven heart. During this program, you will learn the background of this little-known Midwestern art form, prepare the wheat, soak the straw, and create a masterpiece. No prior experience is needed, just nimble fingers! **Please have \$22 in exact change to cover instructor fees and material costs.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Saturday, July 25276186 – 6F

TIME: 10:00 am - 12:30 pm FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee AGE: 16 years – Adult

CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS

Whimsical Woodland Garland

There is nothing more peaceful than a walk through the woods on a bright summer's day. Join us as we capture that woodland magic and bring it into our homes with a whimsical woodland garland made from natural materials.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Friday, July 31.....275186 – 5B

TIME: 6:30 – 7:30 pm FEE: \$10.00 per person AGE: 14 years - Adult



Clam Shell Painting

Join us and paint designs on clam shells. This is a fun, relaxing craft that will take clam shells and personalize them with beautiful paint designs.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Sunday, August 2.....275186 – 5C

TIME: 1:00 – 2:00 pm FEE: \$8.00 per person AGE: 10 years – Adult

Still Life Drawing at Cedar Bridge Tavern

Spend some creative hours with us drawing from a still life setup, made of many wonderful replica artifacts from our restored 19th century tavern. This self-guided session is perfect for adults who want time to sketch, practice observation, and leave with a fresh piece of artwork. No instruction, just a space to draw and enjoy the process. Please bring your favorite drawing supplies and a few sheets of paper. Please note you cannot use ink or paint inside the tavern.

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

DATE: Sunday, August 2.....279186 – 9B

TIME: 1:00 – 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person AGE: Adult

Flower Crowns

Few things are as magical as wearing a crown of fresh flowering blooms. Join us as we take a variety of these blooming beauties and craft them into a piece of wearable art.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, August 8.....275186 – 5D

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$10.00 per person AGE: 14 years - Adult

Paper Embroidery

Paper embroidery is a simplified version of embroidery using cardstock as a base material instead of fabric- perfect for small projects like card making! We will be using natural materials and embroidery floss to create a beautiful floral image, ready to be mounted on a card or hung as wall art. Basic knowledge of embroidery is helpful but not required, all stitches will be taught during the class. Participants should be comfortable using and gripping small embroidery needles.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Thursday, August 13.....275186 – 5E

TIME: 6:30 – 7:30 pm

FEE: \$8.00 per person AGE: Adult

CREATIVE EXPRESSION

Intro to Framed Miniature Watercolors

Have you ever wanted to try watercolor but didn't want to commit to several classes? During this one-day workshop, you will create two miniature-sized paintings. This relaxed class, led by Diane Israel, a local watercolor artist, will help you hone your beginner watercolor skills and train your aesthetic eye as you pick out the perfect frames for your artwork! All painting supplies are included. Dress for the weather, as this program will be outside. If inclement weather the program will be moved inside. **Please bring \$50.00 in exact change for the instructor and materials.**

LOCATION: Cloverdale Farm County Park Program Room, Barnegat

DATE: Saturday, August 15.....276186 – 6G

TIME: 9:00 am - 12:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: 12 years – Adult

Cigar Box Curio

We will take a simple cigar box and create a unique curio piece, perfect for jewelry or whatever you wish. All supplies are provided but feel free to bring anything from home to personalize your project.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, August 20.....271186 – 1B

TIME: 6:30 – 8:30 pm

FEE: \$20.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Spinning Tales into Songs: Intro to Folksong Writing

No musical training required! New Jersey's Troubadour and 2024 Heritage Fellowship Award recipient; Valerie Vaughn, will sing her original story songs about the Revolutionary War in our area. Then, she will discuss how she writes her lyrical tales and help you learn how you can also be a song writer or lyricist by juggling words and rhymes into songs! As Valerie says, "Every song tells a story and there's a story behind every song." A pad and pencil would be helpful!

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

DATE: Sunday, August 23.....279186 – 9C

TIME: 1:00 - 2:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 14 years - Adult

Farmhouse Fall Wreath

Decorating for fall and the holidays is such a great way to kick off the season. Come and DIY your own Thanksgiving wreath made from grapevine that will make the perfect touch to your front porch or home décor. Burnt oranges, yellows, creams, whites and burgundies will be just a few of the colorful touches you will add to your farmhouse wreath.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, August 27271186 – 1C

TIME: 6:30 – 8:30 pm

FEE: \$20.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Needle Felted Rabbit: Intermediate

Needle felting is the art of using specialized needles to condense natural wool fibers to create beautiful soft sculptures. Join us for our summer needle felting class, where we will be making rabbits! This is an intermediate level class; participants should have taken at least one needle felting class previously and be familiar with basic techniques. We will expand on our knowledge in this class with the use of multiple gauges of needles and blending wool. Please bring a packed lunch as this is a longer class so we will be taking a lunch break halfway through. All supplies will be provided by the instructor.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, August 29.....275186 – 5F

TIME: 10:30 am – 2:00 pm

FEE: \$15.00 per person

AGE: Adult

NEW! Lenape Corn Husk Doll

Create a traditional handcrafted doll using natural corn husks. This hands-on craft is a creative way to connect with Lenape tradition. The class is led by members of the Lenapehoking Reestablishment Project. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

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

DATE: Saturday, August 22.....279186 – 9D

TIME: 1:00 – 2:00pm

FEE: \$7.00 per person

AGE: 6 years - Adult

CREATIVE EXPRESSION

Embroidery Hoop Pumpkin Lanterns

Fall is just around the corner, with cool air and crisp nights. Let's light the way with a pair of cute pumpkins lanterns.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, September 10271186 – 1D

TIME: 6:30 – 8:30 pm FEE: \$20.00 per person AGE: Adult

Wooden Spatula Carving Class

Join us as Kevin Hammell, a local carver, teaches you the art of carving a wooden cooking spatula through step-by-step instructions. **Please bring \$30.00 in exact change for the instructor and materials. If you have a Dremel tool kit, please bring it with you.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES: Saturday, September 12.....276186 – 6H

TIME: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee AGE: Adult

THANKFUL, GRATEFUL, BLESSED

Come and make a 3-tiered wooden pumpkin hanger for your home. Each pumpkin will be designed to your liking and then labeled with vinyl that will read "Thankful, Grateful, and Blessed"

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, September 17271186 – 1E

TIME: 6:30 – 8:30 pm FEE: \$20.00 per person AGE: Adult

FINE ARTS CREATIVE EXPRESSION

Oil Painting: Still Life Mini's with Arlene Marcoe

The primary objective of this program is to master the technique of painting a still life through direct observation. In each class, we will complete a small painting of a simple subject following basic steps. The first hour: drawing and composition, the second hour: blocking in values, and the final hour will be bringing it to completion. We will explore the principles of composition and the arrangement that will be presented to you. Arlene will provide a demonstration of the initial blocking-in process and discuss the considerations involved in making artistic decisions. Each session will have specific goals to ensure your satisfaction with your work before progressing to the subsequent phase. You will receive personalized guidance and feedback throughout the duration of the class. Required supplies to purchase before class: Three Canvases: 5x7 in. or 6x8 in. (no more than ~\$3 each, might come in a pack) Weber brand Odorless turpenoid (~\$12 for 8 oz.) A roll of Paper towels, Plastic Palette. Available at Walmart, Amazon, Michaels, etc. The rest of the supplies will be provided in class.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursdays, July 16 – 30270186 – 1A

TIME: 1:00 – 4:00 pm FEE: \$60.00 per person AGE: Adult

Making Multiples: Beginner Printmaking with Anne Lynch

This medium has been around a long time, but we'll use fresh techniques and innovations to work up to hand printing some frame ready artwork and make our own lino-cut designs on a tote bag, perfect for summer! Please note we will be using easy-to-carve materials for block printing, it can be difficult for those with limited hand strength. Required supplies to purchase before class: Speedball brand Linoleum Cutter with 5 cutters (~\$16) Strathmore brand Printmaking paper, 8x10 in. (~\$9.50) *Available to purchase on Amazon & Michaels. The rest of the supplies will be provided in class.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursdays, August 6 – 20270186 – 1B

TIME: 1:00 – 3:30 pm FEE: \$50.00 per person AGE: Adult

FINE ARTS CREATIVE EXPRESSION

Stories & Snacks: Bite Sized Art History

Bring a snack and settle in for a lively, bite-sized journey in art history. We'll explore a handful of fascinating artworks and the stories behind them: unexpected details, historical moments, and the people who made them. No background in art is needed, just curiosity (and maybe something tasty to munch on). You'll leave with a few new favorite artworks and a fresh way of looking at art.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, August 27.....270186 – 1C

TIME: 2:00 – 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Pen and Ink Zen Meditative Drawing with Laura Moyer

Discover the calming art of meditative drawing, where simple, repetitive patterns guide you into a state of mindfulness and creativity. In this relaxing program, you'll explore how intentional mark-making can enhance focus, reduce stress, and unlock your artistic potential. Whether you're looking to quiet a busy mind or simply indulge in the soothing rhythm of creating, this program offers a refreshing retreat for beginners and experienced artists alike. Join us and experience the beauty of drawing as meditative practice, one pattern at a time! Required supplies to purchase before class:

Sakura brand Micron black pens, Multipack of 3 pens, 3 sizes (~\$8)

Available at Walmart, Amazon, Michaels, etc. The rest of the supplies will be provided in class.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, September 10.....270186 – 1D

TIME: 1:00 – 4:00 pm

FEE: \$20.00 per person

AGE: Adult

ACTIVE RECREATION

Seniorcise Exercise

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

LOCATION: Program Room, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Tuesdays and Fridays

SESSION 1: July 7 – July 28 (7 total classes)273123 – 3A

SESSION 2: Sept 8 – Sept 29 (7 total classes)273123 – 3B

TIME: 9:15 - 10:00 am

FEE: \$60.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Chair Stretch

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

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Tuesdays and Fridays

SESSION 1: July 7 – July 28 (7 total classes)273123 – 3C

SESSION 2: Sept 8 – Sept 29 (7 total classes)273123 – 3D

TIME: 1:15 – 1:45 pm

FEE: \$5.00 registration fee per person

AGE: Adult

ACTIVE RECREATION

Tai Chi with a Yoga Twist

This program improves the quality of life for people with joint pain without any knowledge of Tai Chi. This ancient practice combines agile steps, joint safe exercise, and mental strength to improve mobility, breathing, and relaxation in ways that help you feel better. In this class, you will learn warm-up and cool-down exercises the 9 basic movements, medication and tapping to help with the drainage of the lymphatic system . **Please have a check for \$60.00 made payable to Linda Osowski on the first day of class.** Linda is an AAAI-certified personal trainer with over 20 years of experience.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Tuesdays and Fridays

SESSION 1: July 7 – July 28 (7 total classes)273123 – 3E

SESSION 2: Sept 8 – Sept 29 (7 total classes)273123 – 3F

TIME: 2:00 - 2:45 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

Beginner Tai Chi Outdoors

This program will enhance the quality of life for individuals without any prior knowledge of Tai Chi. While practicing this ancient art, we will use eight basic slow, flowing joint-safe movements, deep-breathing exercises, and focused intention to improve balance, physical health, and restore mental calm. The meditative program will include warm-up and cool-down exercises. This class will help you feel better, inside and out! Chairs will be provided during class. If there is inclement weather, the class will be moved inside.

Please have a check for \$60.00 made payable to Linda Osowski on the first day of class. Linda is an AAAI-Certified personal trainer with over 20 years of experience.

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES: Tuesdays and Fridays

SESSION 1: September 8 - September 29 (7 total classes)276123 – 6B

SESSION 2: October 6 - October 27 (7 total classes)276123 – 6C

TIME: 10:30 - 11:15 am

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

Gentle Yoga

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

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

SESSION 1: Mondays, July 13 – August 17.....273123 – 3G

SESSION 2: Mondays, Sept 14 – October 26 (no class 10/12)273123 – 3H

TIME: 5:00 - 6:00 pm

FEE: \$40.00 per person

AGE: 16 years – Adult

Yoga After Work

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

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursdays, July 16 – August 20273123 – 3I

DATE: Thursdays, Sept. 17 – October 22.....273123 – 3J

TIME: 5:00 - 6:00 pm

FEE: \$40.00 per person

AGE: 16 years – Adult

ACTIVE RECREATION

Lakeside Yoga

Finish your day off with some serene lakeside yoga. This 5-week program is open to all levels. You'll start the evening off with a pranayama breathing exercise and maybe a short meditation. You'll move into yoga postures and sun salutations before ending the class with a relaxing savasana (rest time!) ... all the while experiencing the beauty of the lake and the outdoors. **Please wear comfortable clothing and bring a beach towel and/or yoga mat. Long pants and bug spray are recommended.** Loes Way is a registered yoga instructor with the Yoga Alliance.

LOCATION: Beach, A. Paul King County Park, Manahawkin

SESSION 1: Wednesdays, July 8 - August 12.....273123 – 3K

SESSION 2: Wednesdays, September 2 – October 7.....273123 – 3L

TIME: 6:00 – 7:00 pm

FEE: \$30.00 per person

AGE: 16 years – Adult

Disc Golf Social

Are you new to disc golf and want to get a bit more experience before hitting the course by yourself? If so, participate in our disc golf social. Come meet new people also interested in playing disc golf and hone your skills on our 18-hole course here at Ocean County Park! You can bring your own discs, or we can provide you with a driver, mid-range, and putting disc to use for the day.

LOCATION: Disc Golf Course, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Mondays, July 6 & 13.....273123 – 3M

TIME: 1:00 – 2:30 pm

FEE: \$8.00 per person

AGE: 16 years – Adult

Intro to Bocce and Cornhole

Interested in learning how to play bocce and cornhole? Well, get ready to toss some bags & bocce balls! We will teach you the rules and basics of these games and give you the chance to practice your skills and jump right into some friendly match play. The four classes will be split, with the first two classes being for bocce ball, and the second two classes for cornhole.

LOCATION: Bocce Courts, John C. Bartlett Jr. County Park, Berkeley Twp.

DATE: Tuesdays, September 22 – October 13.....273123 – 4E

TIME: 1:00 – 2:30 pm

FEE: \$12.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Intro to Pickleball

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

You must complete this class BEFORE taking the Pickleball Rally Class.

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

DATE: Wednesdays, September 16 – October 7.....273123 – 3N

TIME: 4:00 – 5:30 pm

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

DATE: Thursdays, August 13 – September 3.....273123 – 3O

TIME: 5:00 – 6:30 pm

LOCATION: Pickleball Courts 1-3, Stanley "Tip" Seaman County Park, Tuckerton

DATE: Mondays, August 10 - 31.....273123 – 3P

TIME: 3:00 – 4:30 pm

FEE: \$12.00 per person

AGE: Adult

ACTIVE RECREATION

Traveling Intro to Pickleball

We are bringing Pickleball to a court near you! Have you been wanting to give this strange-sounding sport a try but didn't know where? This beginner's workshop will get you playing in no time. The parks department will be traveling to different locations to teach the game which is a combination of tennis, badminton, and ping pong. Come join in on the fun at one of the following locations. All equipment will be supplied. **Please wear sneakers and bring a drink. Rain dates cannot be rescheduled.**

*LOCATION: Tennis Courts, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Monday through Thursday, July 6 – 9.....273123 – 3Q

TIME: 10:00 - 11:00 am

*LOCATION: Pickleball Courts, Magee Ave & The Bay Front, Lavallette

DATE: Monday through Thursday, July 13 – 16.....273123 – 3R

TIME: 9:30 – 10:30 am

*LOCATION: Tennis Court, Wildwood Ave & E. Atlantic Ave, Ocean Gate

DATE: Monday through Thursday, July 20 – 23.....273123 – 3S

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

*LOCATION: Pickleball Courts, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Monday through Thursday, July 27 – July 30.....273123 – 3T

TIME: 9:30 – 10:30 am

*LOCATION: Pickleball Courts 1-3, Stanley "Tip" Seaman County Park, Tuckerton

DATE: Monday through Thursday, August 3 - 6.....273123 – 3U

TIME: 9:30 – 10:30 am

FEE: \$12.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Pickleball Rally

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

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

DATE: Mondays, July 6 - 20.....273123 – 4A

TIME: 9:00 – 10:30 am

LOCATION: Pickleball Courts 1-3, Stanley "Tip" Seaman County Park, Tuckerton

DATE: Mondays, August 17 - 31.....273123 - 4B

TIME: 5:00 – 6:30 pm

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

DATE: Tuesdays, August 11 – August 25273123 – 4C

TIME: 5:00 – 6:30 pm

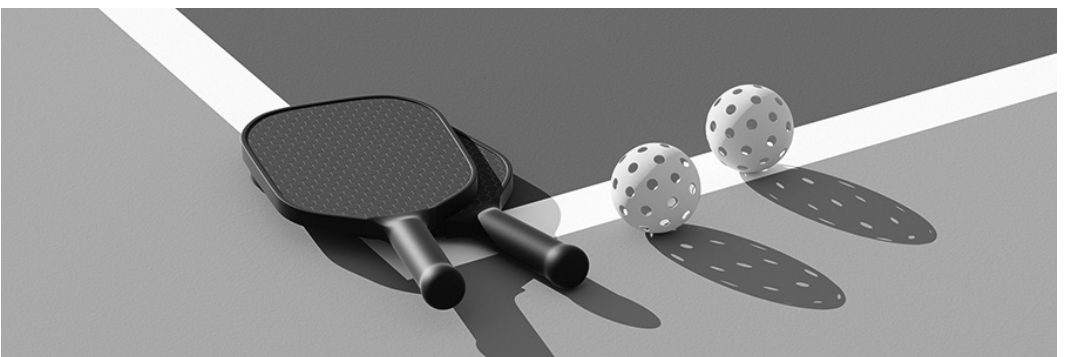
LOCATION: Pickleball Courts 3 & 4, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Thursdays, September 17 – October 1.....273123 – 4D

TIME: 5:00 – 6:30 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: Adult



ACTIVE RECREATION

**** NEW ** Advanced Rally**

This three-day Advanced Pickleball Rally class is designed for experienced players who want to further hone their skills and play in a more competitive environment. Players should have a strong grasp of the game. Staff will be present to answer rules questions and help officiate games. Please wear sneakers and bring a drink. **You must have taken the Pickleball Rally BEFORE taking this class.**

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

DATE: Wednesdays, August 12 - August 26.....273123 – 3Y

TIME: 5:00 - 6:30 pm

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

DATE: Tuesdays, September 1 – September 15.....273123 – 3Z

TIME: 5:00 - 6:30 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Sunday Pickleball Social

Come join us on Sunday mornings here at Ocean County Park for some friendly competition and to practice your pickleball skills. This 4-week social will allow you to meet up with other pickleballers and play matches against a variety of opponents. This is a great opportunity for newer players to practice and improve their newly acquired pickleball skills with others with similar experience. Participants should have some experience playing Pickleball and have a working knowledge of the rules and how to keep score. Staff will be available to organize matches and answer questions.

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

DATE: Sundays, September 20 – October 11273123 – 3ZZ

TIME: 9:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: Adult

HORTICULTURAL HAPPENINGS

Growing Vegetables in Container

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

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

DATE: Wednesday, July 8277186 – 7A

TIME: 10:00 - 11:00 am

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Making Compost and Leaf Mold

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

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

DATE: Wednesday, July 22.....277186 – 7B

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Strawbale Gardening

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

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

DATE: Wednesday, August 12.....277186 – 7C

TIME: 10:00 - 11:00 am

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: Adult

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Awaken Your Soul with Meditation

If you've ever considered introducing a meditation practice into your life, this is the class for you! You'll learn different styles of meditation and take-home methods to begin an at home practice of your own. Meditation done daily reduces stress, improves memory as well as your ability to focus, improves the quality of sleep and helps you develop the mental discipline needed to avoid unhelpful habits. If you think you don't have the time, let me change your mind! (Please bring a mat, blankets, and a pillow and wear comfortable clothes. Aromatherapy will be provided. **Please bring exact cash or check payable to Instructor, Karen English for \$60.00.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Session 1: Tuesdays, July 7 – August 11.....271544 – 1A

DATE: Session 2: Tuesdays, August 18 – September 22.....271544 – 1B

TIME: 6:00 – 7:00 pm FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee AGE: Adult

Crystal Singing Bowls with Reiki and Aromatherapy

Join us for a transformative 90-minute session where we blend the resonant sounds of crystal singing bowls with the healing energies of Reiki and the soothing scents of aromatherapy. This class is designed to guide you into deep relaxation, balance your chakras and elevate your overall well-being. During this 90-minute session, the two Instructors (Karen English and Kathy Gabrielli) will use crystal bowls to produce harmonic tones. These sounds wash over you as a Reiki practitioner will channel healing energy to promote physical, emotional and spiritual healing. Carefully chosen essential oils will be diffused throughout space to help with stress.

Please bring a yoga mat or blanket for comfort and wear comfortable clothing and a check or exact Change cash for \$30.00.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, September 16.....271544 – 1C

TIME: 6:00 – 7:30 pm FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee AGE: Adult

Essential Oil Candle Making & Potpourri Sachet

Come see how to create a clean burning candle. In this hands-on class, you will be making a natural beeswax votive candle using the essential oils of your choice. You will also create a naturally scented sachet with an assortment of dried flowers, which can be used in a variety of ways.

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

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Monday, September 21.....271544 – 1D

TIME: 6:30 – 8:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee AGE: Adult

Better Balance For Fall Prevention

Learn the basics of balance and ways to prevent falls through simple standing exercises during this program. Learn the basic elements to help you stay upright and steady, and simple standing home exercises to strengthen posture and balance.

***Please bring exact cash or a check payable to Licensed Physical Therapist Regina Rosenthal for \$25.00**

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Monday, August 31.....271544 – 1E

TIME: 6:00 – 8:30 PM

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee AGE: Adult

Accupressure For Self-Care: Basic Neck Release

This program will provide a background in the use of accupressure for self-care, based on ancient Chinese medicine principles and practices. Learn postural considerations relative to headaches and the Basic Neck Accupressure Release for self-care, to open the flow of energy through the neck, head, and body.

***Please bring exact cash or a check payable to Licensed Physical Therapist Regina Rosenthal for \$25.00**

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, September 30271544 – 1F

TIME: 6:00 – 8:30 PM

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee AGE: Adult

CPR & Basic Life Support

Adult/Child/Infant CPR AED Certification

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

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

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, July 8271166 – 1A

DATE: Wednesday, August 5.....271166 – 1B

DATE: Wednesday, September 9.....271166 – 1C

TIME: 6:30 – 9:00 PM

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: 14 years – Adult

Basic Life Support (BLS) for the Healthcare Provider

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

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

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, July 22271166 – 1D

DATE: Wednesday, August 19271166 – 1E

DATE: Wednesday, September 23271166 – 1F

TIME: 6:30 – 9:00 PM

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: 14 years - Adult

Recreation Program Policy and Information

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

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

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

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE/ACCOMMODATIONS available upon request

For program availability or a program guide please call:

(732) 506-9090

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

REGISTRATION LOCATIONS:

Monday – Friday 8:30am to 3:30pm

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

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

Wells Mills County Park, Waretown (609) 971-3085

PROGRAM REGISTRATION APPLICATION

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

Ocean County Parks & Recreation Administrative Offices

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

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO “COUNTY OF OCEAN”

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

Refund and Cancellation Policy

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

REFUND POLICY

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

CREDIT POLICY

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

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

REGISTRATION FORM

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Participant's Signature

____/____/____
Today's Date

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

REGISTRATION FORM

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

OCEAN COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION PROGRAM REGISTRATION APPLICATION

LAST _____ FIRST _____
 ADDRESS _____
 APT #/BUILDING _____ TOWN _____
 STATE _____ ZIP _____ 4 DIGIT EXT. _____
 HOME # () _____
 WORK # () _____ EXT #. _____
 EMERGENCY # () _____ CELL # () _____
 EMAIL ADDRESS _____
 Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ Check # _____

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

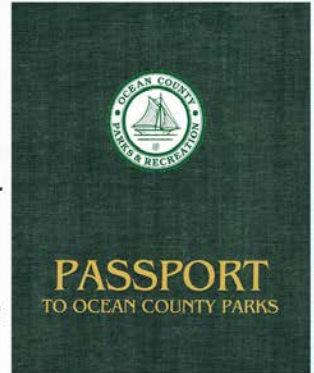
**MAIL IN REGISTRATION WILL BE ACCEPTED BEGINNING
 MONDAY, JUNE 1 FOR PROGRAMS IN THIS ISSUE**

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

YOU MUST SIGN THE OPPOSITE SIDE OF THIS FORM

Get Your Passport to Ocean County Parks at:

- Lake Shenandoah Visitor Center
- Cooper Environmental Center
- Jakes Branch Nature Center
- Wells Mills Environmental Center
- Cloverdale Visitor Center
- Cedar Bridge Tavern Historic Site



Pick up a passport and get a stamp after answering a question at each of the above locations. When you have stamps from all of the locations, bring your passport to the Cloverdale Visitor Center for a special prize! *While Supplies Last*



The Bunker Challenge **CRABBING CONTEST**

Mantoloking Bridge County Park - Brick
Saturday July 25
9am - 1pm

NO ENTRY FEE
Two categories:
12 & under
13 & UP

Bunker provided by Jenkinson's Aquarium



**OCEAN COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION
ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**

1198 Bandon Road

Toms River, New Jersey 08753-3138

(732) 506-9090

PRSP T STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #544
LAKEWOOD, NJ
08701

Mail in Registration is Preferred
REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED BEGINNING
MONDAY, JUNE 1st for PROGRAMS IN THIS ISSUE
Early Main-Ins Will Be Returned
Parks & Registration Administrative Office,
Toms River (732) 506-9090
www.oceancountyparks.org



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

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

