

REGISTRATION BEGINS MONDAY, December 2nd

Your guide to Programs, Events, Classes & More

2025 WINTER PROGRAM GUIDE & NEWSLETTER

Ocean County Parks & Recreation Natural Lands Trust



Pickleball in your Ocean County Parks

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

John P. Kelly – Director

Frank Sadeghi – Deputy Director

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

Mary Jane Bavais

Director of Parks and Recreation

www.oceancountyparks.org

Courting Success

by Donna Flynn - Ocean County Public Information Director

Cover Photo: Mary Jane Bavais, (4th from L) Director of Ocean County Parks & Recreation, Ocean County Commissioner Virginia E. Haines, (2nd from R), Liaison to the Ocean County Parks & Recreation Department.

It all started back in 1965, when Joel Pritchard a U.S. Congressman from Washington State and Bill Bell, his friend and a successful businessman, returned to Pritchard's home on Bainbridge Island, WA (near Seattle) to find their families sitting around with nothing to do. The property had an old badminton court so Pritchard and Bell looked for some badminton equipment and could not find a full set of rackets. They improvised and started playing with ping-pong paddles and a perforated plastic ball. The following weekend, Barney McCallum was introduced to the game at Pritchard's home. Soon, the three men created rules, relying heavily on badminton. They kept in mind the original purpose, which was to provide a game that the whole family could play together, according to USAPickleball.org.

Nearly six decades later, Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the United States and during the last four years it has grown 224.5% the USA Pickleball organization noted.

"Ocean County is certainly part of the pickleball movement," said Ocean County Commissioner Virginia E. Haines, Chairwoman of the Ocean County Department of Parks and Recreation. "While the growth of the game continues to increase, we are making every effort to meet the interest of our residents eager to play."

Ocean County is working on increasing the number of pickleball courts at Ocean County parks whether creating new courts or converting older tennis courts into pickleball or multi-use courts.

"We provide the opportunity for all sports but pickleball seems to be the one that people really want to play," Haines said. "Like USAPickleball.org says, it's a great sport for beginners, easy to learn, social and fun."

A recent visit to the new Pickleball Court at Ocean County Park brought out an enthusiastic group that could not have been happier with the new outdoor courts.

"This is what we want to see," Haines said. "Our parks are for the enjoyment of everyone."

In order to meet the Pickleball needs of residents, Ocean County converted two tennis courts into six pickleball courts at Ocean County Park in Lakewood. A combination pickleball/tennis court has also been added and resurfacing of the additional seven tennis courts there is also taking place.

At Tip Seaman County Park in Tuckerton, the County converted two tennis courts into six pickleball courts and also resurfaced four tennis courts. The courts at Beaver Dam County Park, Point Pleasant, also were resurfaced in order to create one combination court and one tennis court.

"Pickleball courts are available at Jakes Branch County Park in Beachwood with two combination pickleball/tennis courts and two tennis courts," Haines said. "The popularity of the game, which certainly has come a long way since the days when it started out with a badminton set and a plastic ball in Washington State, has us looking at other areas that we can construct pickleball courts."

She added that the new county park that will be constructed in Manchester Township also will include pickleball courts.

The courts are open to the public, free of charge, when the parks are open which is from dawn to dusk daily.

"We do not require reservations for courts however we do ask players, if the courts are full to rotate out to give others who are waiting an opportunity to play," Haines said.

She added anyone wanting to learn how to play pickleball can check the Ocean County Department of Parks and Recreation's program guide for opportunities on learning how to play or improving ones skills.

"We are pleased to offer our residents the chance to be part of the fastest growing sport in the U.S.," Haines said. "The sport offers enjoyment for the entire family. It's a great way to exercise and enjoy the outdoors at many of our county parks."

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Michelle Urban & Carolyn Hofmann

The Ocean County Parks & Recreation Newsletter

is sponsored by the

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and is prepared by the

Ocean County Parks & Recreation Department

Contributors: Active Recreation, Art and Environmental Staff.

Your Ocean County Lands Trust Property

Run Creek Tuckerton



The Run Creek property in Tuckerton spans 30.28 acres and is located off route 9 and borders the Edwin B. Forsythe refuge. This beautiful wooded property is densely packed with numerous plant and tree species. This property is also home to various species of animals including waterfowl, White-tailed deer, Red-tailed hawks, owls and so many more. Wildflowers are scattered throughout the property attracting different species of butterflies and insects and they also bring an array of vibrant color to the area.



FREE WEEKEND PROGRAMS

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

CATTUS ISLAND COUNTY PARK

Scales and Tales

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

This program is sure to inspire all young nature lovers. **No registration required.**

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

DATE: Saturdays and Sundays

TIME: 1:30 -2:00 pm

AGE: All

Cattus Island Nature Walks

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

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

***No registration required.**

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

DATE: Saturdays and Sundays

TIME: 2:00 – 3:00pm

FEE: FREE

AGE: All

January 4 & 5

Cattus Island's Ecosystems

January 11 & 12

Animal Habitats

January 18 & 19

Signs of Animals in Winter

January 25 & 26

Groundhogs or Whistlepigs?

February 1 & 2

Animal Tracks

February 8 & 9

Hibernation

February 15 & 16

A Winter Marsh Walk

February 22 & 23

Winter Birds

March 1 & 2

Backyard Birding

March 8 & 9

Signs of Spring

March 15 & 16

Return of the Osprey

March 22 & 23

Osprey Nests of Cattus Island

March 29 & 30

Naturalist's Choice

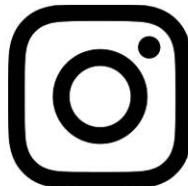
Stay tuned to your Ocean County Parks & Recreation



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on FACEBOOK**

Search: MyOCParks on INSTAGRAM

www.oceancountyparks.org



CEDAR BRIDGE TAVERN

The following programs are Free, No Registration Required

Kids Crafts at Cedar Bridge

Come to Cedar Bridge for colonial crafts and coloring pages for kids. All ages can try their hand at our stone grinding grist mill to see what flour making was like in early America. Tours of the Cedar Bridge Tavern will also be available.

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

DATE: Sunday, January 5, February 16, March 30

TIME: 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

FEE: Free

AGE: All

Hot Cocoa at Historic Cedar Bridge

Join docent at Cedar Bridge Tavern Historic Site to talk about the history of the site.

Enjoy a cup of hot chocolate to warm up while learning about local lore and the history of Ocean County's Revolutionary War past.

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

DATE: Saturday, January 18, February 8, March 1 & 22

TIME: 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

FEE: Free

AGE: All

CLOVERDALE FARM COUNTY PARK

Beginner Bird Walks

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

This informative bird walk is perfect for beginners. **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, January 4, February 8, March 1

TIME: 8:30 - 10:00 am

FEE: Free

AGES: 9 years - Adult

Family Bird Walk

Get those little feet moving and out in nature while learning about the birds that call Ocean County home. Adults must remain with children.

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

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES: Sundays, January 5, February 9, March 2

TIME: 9:00 - 10:00 am

FEE: Free

AGE: All Children must be accompanied by an adult

Solving STEM Problems With LEGOs

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

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES: Saturdays, January 25, February 1, March 22

TIME: 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

FEE: Free

AGE: 8 years - Adult

CLOVERDALE FARM COUNTY PARK

The Wonders of the Natural World

During this program, we will get your little one's mind whirling about the wonders of the natural world through reading different fun and beautifully illustrated storybooks before we for a brief nature walk. If extreme cold temperatures or inclement weather, we will do a make-and-take craft.

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES: Saturdays, January 25, February 1, March 22

TIME: 2:00 - 3:00 pm

FEE: Free

AGE: All; children must be accompanied by adult.

Great Backyard Bird Count Weekend

Stop by our Visitor Center to learn how to identify common backyard birds and help the staff count the number of birds at our feeders.

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES: Friday, February 14-Sunday, February 16

TIME: 10:00 am - 3:30 pm

FEE: Free

AGE: All

Calling All Artists! Cloverdale Farm's Plein Air Weekend

Most of the 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 blank canvases and medium materials and get ready to create in this plein air-style (outside in open air) event. Keep in mind your eco-footprint. **Anything you bring in must be brought back home with you, including solvents or paint water, so be sure to pack containers and plastic bags.**

LOCATION: Entire Park, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Friday, March 28 – Sunday, March 30

TIME: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

FEE: Free

AGE: All; Children must be accompanied by Adult

JAKES BRANCH COUNTY PARK

The following programs are Free, No Registration Required

Live Animal Talks

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

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

LOCATION: Nature Center, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Sundays, January 5 – March 30

TIME: 1:30 pm

FEE: Free

AGE: All

Discovery Nature Walks

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

LOCATION: Nature Center, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Sundays, January 5 – March 30

TIME: 2:00 pm

FEE: Free

AGE: All

Drop In and Discover

What will you discover about nature when you drop by any time between 1:30 and 3:30 and join us for a FREE activity and craft?

LOCATION: Nature Center, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturdays, January 4 – March 29

TIME: Between 1:30 – 3:00 pm, ongoing

FEE: Free

AGE: 3 - 5 years

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, February 22

TIME: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

DATE: Saturday, March 22

TIME: 8:00 – 10:00 pm

LOCATION: Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Saturday, March 1

TIME: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

FEE: Free

AGE: All

Owl Prowl

Are you adventurous? If so, you will enjoy a guided walk through the forest looking and listening for Great Horned Owls and Eastern Screech Owls. If we are lucky enough, we will get to see an owl up close and personal! **Please wear sneakers or boots, dress for the weather, and be prepared to walk one mile at a moderate pace. If it is overcast or there are high winds, we will cancel.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Friday, January 10.....426536 – 1A

TIME: 5:30 – 6:30 pm

DATE: Saturday, February 8.....426536 – 1B

TIME: 6:00 – 7:00 pm

DATE: Friday, March 14.....426536 – 1C

TIME: 7:30 – 8:30 pm

DATE: Friday, April 11.....426536 – 1D

TIME: 8:00 – 9:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: 8 years – Adult



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.

PARENT & CHILD FUN

Toddler Nature Trek

Leave the stroller behind and get those little feet moving down the trail with Cloverdale's Naturalist staff. We will use our five senses to take in the wonders of nature.

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES:

Friday, January 3.....426021 – 1A

Friday, February 7.....426021 – 1B

Friday, March 7.....426021 – 1C

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: \$5.00 per child, adults are free but must register

AGE: Infant – 5 years, parent or guardian must accompany child

Family Nature and Animal Poses: Kids & Me Yoga

This playful and fun yoga class will allow creative self-expression while exploring the world of yoga for kids ages 4-8 years with an adult. Through various nature and animal-themed poses, breathing exercises, games, stories and songs, your child will learn stretching, strengthening, focus and relaxation. This program is hosted by yoga teacher and health coach, Kim Buono. **Please bring \$10 the day of the class for each day you will be attending. Please wear loose comfortable clothing and bring a yoga mat for you and your child. Class will be held outside; however, if there is inclement weather, the program will be held inside.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES:

Saturday, January 25.....426021 – 1D

Saturday, February 1.....426021 – 1E

Saturday, March 22.....426021 – 1F

TIME: 9:30 - 10:15 am

FEE: \$5.00 per team (one child & one adult)

AGE: 4 years - Adult

Drop-In Storytelling and Craftmaking

Pull up a chair in front of the warm fire as we read a few children's stories inside.

Afterward, the children will make a craft related to the story. This is a drop-in style program, story reading will start promptly at program start.

Please arrive accordingly.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am

FEE: Free

AGE: 3 - 5 years

Winter Fun-derland

Crisp winter air, hot cocoa by the fire, and falling snow; all the signs of a great snow day! Join us for some winter fun (even if it's not snowing) as we read a few snow themed stories and sip hot cocoa by the fire. After, we will do a snow-themed craft.

DATE: Thursday, January 16

Fantastical Fun

Knights and Dragons and Unicorns, oh my! For thousands of years children and adults alike have been fascinated by the fantasy worlds we create within our own imaginations. Join us as we explore some of these worlds and use our imaginations to make them real. We will read some fun and silly fantasy stories followed by a craft sure to have your child breathing fire with excitement.

DATE: Thursday, February 13

Fabulous Fish

Funny fish swimming in the sea, flashing fins and tails for me. Fish so fast with scales that shine, I can't help but wish they were mine! Fish are fabulous, I think you agree, so come and do some crafts with me. Join us for this sea-sational storytime as we read a few fishy fables followed by a craft of whale sized proportions!

DATE: Thursday, March 13

PARENT & CHILD FUN

Maker Monday's Kids Craft Drop In

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

LOCATION: Nature Center, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Mondays,

January	6	Super Snowmen
January	20	Savvy Snowflakes
February	3	Radical Rainbows
February	17	Outrageous Owls
March	3	Tremendous Trees
March	17	Fabulous Flowers

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: Free

AGE: 3 – 5 years

Hot Cocoa Crafts

January 31st is National Hot Chocolate Day! Come by to make a hot chocolate craft you can hang up, or make into a magnet. Craft will involve gluing and paint so plan attire accordingly. We will also enjoy some hot cocoa.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Friday, January 31.....425186 – 1D

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$8.00 per team (1 Child, 1 Adult)

AGE: 5 years - Adult

PRESCHOOL CLASSES

Children must be potty-trained

Please note any food allergies or special needs

There are no rain dates for Preschool Programs, a credit would be issued

Winter Wonderland

Put on your mittens and boots for an hour in an imaginary Winter Wonderland. We will read winter tales, make snowmen and play winter games.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Tuesday, January 7.....421021 – 2A

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: \$5.00 per child

AGE: 3 - 5 years

Penguins, Zebras and Oreo Cookies

What do they have in common? They're all black and white. Join us and learn about the uniqueness of black and white animals. We will discover them through stories, crafts and more.

PLEASE LIST ANY FOOD ALLERGIES AT TIME OF REGISTRATION

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, January 9.....421021 – 2B

TIME: 10:00 - 11:00 am

FEE: \$5.00 per child

AGE: 3 - 5 years

Sleepy Critters

Did you know that some animals sleep ALL winter long? Join us as we make crafts and listen to stories about animals that sleep the winter away.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, January 15.....421021 – 2C

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: \$5.00 per child

AGE: 3 - 5 years

PRESCHOOL CLASSES

Dragon Magic

We are going on a dragon hunt using the magic of imagination. Through stories, games and crafts, our little adventurers will capture their own magic dragon.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Tuesday, January 21.....421021 – 2D

TIME: 10:00 - 11:00 am

FEE: \$5.00 per child

AGE: 3 - 5 years

Young Naturalists

Your little naturalist will learn about bugs and frogs, feel furs of local mammals, and make a fish print to take home.

LOCATION: Beach Complex - Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Thursday, January 23.....428466 – 3B

DATE: Thursday, February 6.....428466 – 3C

TIME: 1:00 – 1:45 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 3 - 5 years

It's Groundhog Day

Will the groundhog see his shadow, is springtime on its way? Let's get together and make some funny groundhog crafts, read a story and play a game.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, January 30.....421021 – 2E

TIME: 10:00 - 11:00 am

FEE: \$5.00 per child

AGE: 3 - 5 years

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: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Mondays, February 3 & 10.....423021 – 1A

TIME: 1:00 – 2:00 pm

FEE: \$8.00 per child

AGE: 3 – 5 years

It's all about DINOSAURS

Let's have fun learning about the giant creatures that once roamed the Earth. We will roar with the dinosaurs while making fun crafts.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, February 5.....421021 – 2F

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: \$5.00 per child

AGE: 3 – 5 years

Pre-K Gym

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

LOCATION: Program Room, Stanley "Tip" Seaman County Park, Tuckerton

DATE: Thursday, February 6423021 – 1B

TIME: 1:00 – 2:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per child

AGE: 3 – 5 years

Be My Valentine

What could be more fun than making valentines for our family and friends? Join us for a fun filled morning of stories, games and crafts that all say I love you!

PLEASE LIST ANY FOOD ALLERGIES AT TIME OF REGISTRATION

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, February 12.....421021 – 2G

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: \$5.00 per child

AGE: 3 - 5 years

PRESCHOOL CLASSES

Quack, Quack

Come paddle about with our web-footed friends. You will “quack up” with stories, games and ducky crafts.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Tuesday, February 18.....421021 - 2H

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: \$5.00 per child

AGE: 3 - 5 years

Monkey Tails

Come and monkey around with us. We will listen to monkey tales, make monkey crafts and play silly monkey games.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, February 26.....421021 – 2I

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: \$5.00 per child

AGE: 3 – 5 years

Lucky Leprechauns

Catch a leprechaun and capture his pot of gold! Through stories, crafts, and games we will be Irish for the day and bring home your very own leprechaun.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, March 5.....421021 – 2J

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: \$5.00 per child

AGE: 3 – 5 years

Wacky Wheels

Scooters, skaters, trucks and cars all need wheels to get very far. We will spin stories, crafts and games about things that go on wheels.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, March 6.....421021 – 2K

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: \$5.00 per child

AGE: 3 - 5 years

Zany Zoo!

What's new at the Zoo? Come with us on an imaginary visit to the Zoo! Our Zany Zoo will be filled with stories, games, and crafts.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Tuesday, March 25.....421021 – 2M

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: \$5.00 per child

AGE: 3 – 5 years

Teddy Bear's Picnic

“If you go into the woods today, you're in for a big surprise” It's the Teddy Bear's picnic! Bring your favorite teddy and join us for “Beary” fun stories, games and crafts.

PLEASE LIST ANY FOOD ALLERGIES AT TIME OF REGISTRATION

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, March 26.....421021 – 2L

TIME: 10:00-11:00 am

FEE: \$5.00 per child

AGE: 3 - 5 years

Puppet Pals

Puppets are a fun and creative way for children to express themselves. Paper bags, socks and assorted other items will be used to make several silly puppets.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, March 27.....421021 – 2N

TIME: 10:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 3 - 5 years

FUN FOR KIDS

Homeschool Gym - North

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

LOCATION: Beach Complex, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Mondays, March 3 – March 31.....423332 – 1A

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

DATE: Mondays, March 3 – March 31.....423332 – 1B

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

DATE: Mondays, March 3 – March 31.....423332 – 1C

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

FEE: \$14.00 per child

Homeschool Gym – South

This class is designed for children who are being homeschooled but still want that gym class atmosphere. Every week, 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.**

LOCATION: Softball Field 1, Stanley “Tip” Seaman County Park, Tuckerton

DATE: Wednesdays, March 5 – April 2.....423332 – 1D

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$14.00 per child AGE: 5 – 8 years

Forest Animals Beaded Keychains

Learn about forest animals as we make keychains using string and old fashioned pony beads! These keychains are sure to add some flair to any backpack or lunchbox.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, March 22.....425262 – 1A

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$5.00 per person AGE: 6 – 12 years

Dr. Dude’s Cool Science

Dr. Dude is back again with another day of stupendous science. This time, he is bringing the cold of winter inside to show your child how chill science can be! We will be doing various cool experiments, including making our own ice cream. **Please list any food allergies at the time of registration.**

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, March 29.....425262 – 1B

TIME: 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

FEE: \$15.00 per person AGE: 7 – 9 years

Slime Time

Slime is a popular craft for kids. Come by and enjoy this fun activity. Different colors and things to add to the slime will be available. Containers will also be provided. **Wearing old clothes is advised as this activity might cause stains.**

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Sunday, February 16.....425262 – 1C

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$10.00 per person AGE: 8 – 16 years

LECTURES

Culinary Herbs for Home and Health

Looking for ways to use those common kitchen herbs for more than just seasoning? Join us as we take some of the most commonly used culinary herbs and discover not only how they can be used medicinally, but how to incorporate them into new and exciting preparations! Samples of many of these concoctions will be available to taste during our discussion.

Please list any food allergies at the time of registration.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, January 4.....425166 – 1A

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 14 years - Adult

Old Barnegat

Barnegat is such a quaint community with its old historical buildings and small town charm. It makes you wish you just knew a little bit more about its rich history. Thankfully, we have Curtis Watts, who is willing to share with us his father, Fred Watts', photography collection of old town Barnegat. Curtis will take us back in time to see what life was once like in this small shore community, its businesses, historic landmarks, and even some tales of Barnegat Pete.

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Saturday, January 18426166 – 1A

TIME: 2:00 – 4:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 12 years - Adult

All About Arachnids

Arachnids are some of the most feared and misunderstood creatures. Take a deep dive into what it means to be an arachnid, learn to identify some native species, and even meet some live arachnids up close.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATES: Tuesday, January 21.....425166 – 1B

Saturday, March 15.....425166 – 1C

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 8 years - Adult

Beginner Astronomy: Winter Constellations

Getting started in Astronomy or just want to learn about the seasonal constellations? Join Jim Webster from the Astronomical Society of the Toms River Area, Dark Sky Advocate and SciStarter Ambassador, as we explore the current season's constellations, how to find them, and some citizen science.

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

DATE: Tuesday, January 21.....422166 – 3A

TIME: 6:00 – 7:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 10 years – Adult

LECTURES

Genealogy 101

Interest in family history is nothing new but many people don't know where to begin. Just the thought can seem overwhelming. Like the old joke, "How do you eat an elephant?" the answer is, "One bite at a time". In this 4-hour crash course designed for beginners, participants will take it "one bite at a time" and learn what supplies they'll need, find out how to create a research log, and discover how an online family tree makes the job easier. They will explore the US Census, research obituaries and cemeteries, and scrutinize immigration and naturalization records. Beginners will also learn what to do when they hit a brick wall, and finally, what to do with all this information...one bite at a time.

Please have \$45 in exact change to cover instructor fees and material costs.

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Wednesday, January 22426166 – 1B

TIME: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 12 years-Adult

adult must accompany children under 18

Forgotten Towns of the Pine Barrens

It has been said that there are more "ghost towns" in the New Jersey Pine Barrens than the old west. During this PowerPoint, we will "visit" these forgotten villages and discuss the various industries that once supported them.

LOCATION: Program Room, Wells Mills County Park, Waretown

DATE: Tuesday, February 4

TIME: 2:00 - 3:30 pm.....424166 – 4A

TIME: 5:00 - 6:30 pm.....424166 – 4B

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 14 years – Adult

Beginner Astronomy: What to See in the Night Sky

Getting started in astronomy? Have a new telescope or binoculars and are not sure what you are looking for? Learn about star clusters, nebulae and galaxies. Join Jim Webster from the Astronomical Society of the Toms River Area, Dark Sky Advocate and SciStarter Ambassador as we explore what you can see in the night sky along with some citizen science.

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Saturday, February 8426166 – 1C

TIME: 2:00 – 3:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 8 years - Adult

A New Perspective on Family History

Connect to the people of your past while moving beyond the traditional family tree. Play detective and time traveler as we discuss ways to dive further into telling your family's story by using letters, recipes, photos, family heirlooms, and more. Make your family history come alive and be more relatable for future generations. Note: This program differs from the Family History Binder with a focus on family story telling "stuff" that we inherit, collect, and curate. **Please have \$25 in exact change to cover instructor fees and material costs.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Thursday, February 13426166 – 1D

TIME: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 12 years - Adult

LECTURES

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 Powerpoint 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: Thursday, February 20.....422166 – 3B

TIME: 6:00 - 7:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 12 years – Adult

The Cemeteries of Ocean County

Join historian Joseph Latshaw in exploring the varied types of cemeteries in Ocean County through pictures, stories and audience discussion.

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

DATE: Thursday, February 20.....429166 – 2A

TIME: 2:00 - 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: All

Spring Constellations

Join Jim Webster from the Astronomical Society of the Toms River Area, Dark Sky Advocate and SciStarter Ambassador as we explore spring constellations, how to find them and some citizen science. **Observation of the nighttime sky will take place after the program so please dress for the weather.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Saturday, March 1.....426166 – 1E

TIME: 5:00 – 6:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 8 years - Adult;
adult must accompany children under 18.



Attracting Wildlife to your Yard

You don't need a large property to attract beneficial and entertaining wildlife to your yard. You can do it with only a few square feet if you provide the basic needs of the wildlife you are trying to attract. Join Wells Mills staff as we discuss how to provide those needs and get your wildlife garden ready to shine.

LOCATION: Program Room, Wells Mills County Park, Waretown

DATE: Tuesday, March 4

TIME: 2:00 - 3:30 pm.....424166 – 4C

TIME: 5:00 – 6:30 pm.....424166 – 4D

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 14 years - Adult

LECTURES



Milky-way Photography

Join Jim Webster from the Astronomical Society of the Toms River Area for a beginner -level discussion on Milky Way Photography with a DSLR camera or cell phone and what is needed to get started.

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

DATE: Tuesday, March 4.....422166 – 3C

TIME: 6:00 - 7:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 10 years - Adult

Clues to the Past

It's time to put on your investigator caps and explore Cedar Bridge Tavern. The tour will focus on the history of the tavern and the various research methodologies used to restore the building. Discover the evidence historians use to piece together stories of the past.

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

DATE: Sunday, March 23.....429166 – 2B

TIME: 2:00 - 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: All



WALKS

Wednesday Walks

Get to know more than just our county parks. Did you know that Ocean County Natural Lands Trust Fund has preserved over 25,000 acres of public land and NJ Lands Trust has preserved over 30,000? These walks are meant to introduce you to some less-traveled properties. **Walks will be between 2 & 2 ½ miles.**

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

DATES: Wednesdays,

January 8 Good Luck Point.....425536 – 6A

February 5 Crossley Preserve.....425536 – 6B

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: \$6.00 per person

AGE: 10 years – Adult

Bridge Road Moonlight Hike

The cold winter sky should allow for beautiful views of the almost full Wolf Moon, a name which is thought to have originated from the fact that wolves were more likely to be heard howling at this time, in the deep of winter.

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

DATE: Saturday, January 11.....425536 – 6C

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 6:30 – 8:00 pm

FEE: \$6.00 per person

AGE: 10 years – Adult

Groundhog's Day Winter Bay Beach Walk

A winter walk is a wonderful way to clear your mind, body, and soul. We will walk out to Page's Point to take in the winter sites of Cattus Island, Silver Bay, and the bay beach.

This is a 2-mile interpretive walk.

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

DATE: Friday, January 31.....422530 – 3A

TIME: 1:00 - 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 10 years – Adult

Sip n Stroll

Join us as we head to Bay Head for our latest Sip n Stroll. We will stop at Port Coffee Roasters to fuel up on their daily brew and then head out to explore and learn a thing or two about the surrounding area.

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

DATE: Friday, March 21425536 – 6D

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 – 11:00 am

FEE: \$6.00 per person

AGE: 10 years - Adult

History of Cattus Island Van and Walking Tour

Join a park naturalist who will transport you back in time to visit the various sites around Cattus Island, bringing its varied history to life. **Wear comfortable shoes; there will be several short walks included.**

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

DATE: Tuesday, March 18

TIME: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm.....422530 – 3B

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 10 years – Adult

JAUNTS

Jaunts are shorter and/or traverse easier terrain than most of our hikes. These programs are well suited for beginners or those simply seeking a shorter walk. Feel free to bring along a snack or lunch to eat at the end of the jaunt as we will generally be finished with our walk by lunch time. For later ending programs, we will have lunch at the location. Please wear shoes appropriate for hiking and dress for the weather. **We recommend you arrive 15 minutes prior to departure time. All return times are approximate. Bug spray with DEET is recommended. If you have any questions, please call Wells Mills County Park at 609-971-3085.**

Shark River Jaunt

This hike will take us through the Inner Coastal Plain of Monmouth County's first park, opened in 1961. We will encounter some mild elevation change, wetlands and pine/oak forests. If wet, trails will be slippery. **Wear appropriate footwear.**

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

DATE: Friday, January 24.....THIS PROGRAM IS FULL.....424236 – 2H

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

RATING & MILEAGE: Easy to Moderate: hilly, may be wet – 4 miles

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

Cambell Jaunt

Explore this 370 acre Natural Lands Trust Fund property where the headwaters of Mill Creek are located.

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

DATE: Saturday, February 1.....425536 – 6E

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 – 11:30 am

RATING/MILEAGE: 3.5 miles – flat, some sand

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

Batsto Jaunt

Traveling to Burlington County

Batsto was once an iron-producing company town, providing munitions and supplies during the American Revolution. Part of our route will take us along the old millpond, which once supplied power to the furnace bellows and still powers the sawmill to this day.

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

DATE: Friday, February 14.....424236 – 2J

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

RATING & MILEAGE: Easy: flat, some sugar sand– 4 miles

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

Jaunt to Reevestown Cemetery

Join the Cedar Bridge Tavern staff on a two mile nature walk through the forest and woods roads to explore the nearby historic Reevestown Cemetery. **The terrain will be uneven and may be wet in some sections. Participants should wear hiking shoes and bug spray.**

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

DATE: Saturday, February 22.....429530 – 9A

TIME: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

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

Hartshorne Woods Jaunt

Hartshorne Woods Park in Monmouth County was a desirable military defense site due to its high elevation. This elevation also allows for some moderately challenging trails through the forest along the coast of the Navesink River.

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

DATE: Friday, March 14.....THIS PROGRAM IS FULL.....424236 – 2I

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

RATING & MILEAGE: Easy to Moderate: hilly, mild rocky footing – 4 miles

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

OCEAN COUNTY HIKING CLUB

When you register and participate in any hike or jaunt offered below we automatically begin to record and keep track of your mileage. Pins and credits for free hikes are earned at the 50, 100, 250, 500 and 1000 mile marks.

Join us as we get outdoor exercise, learn about our natural history, and make lasting friendships!

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

HIKES

Our naturalists cover the diverse terrain of New Jersey through our hiking programs. **Pack your lunch and dress for the weather.** Trail ratings follow each departure time. **Please read them carefully to determine the best program for your endurance level.** Unlike our nature walks, these are recreational programs with minimal interpretation and break stops. You should be able to walk at a continuous pace on the given terrain of the hike.

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

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

Terrace Pond Hike

Traveling to Passaic County

Your efforts will be rewarded with this challenging yet beautiful hike in Wawayanda State Park. We will hike through deep woods and across puddingstone outcrops to reach stunning viewpoints and a secluded glacial pond.

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

DATE: Sunday January 12.....424236 – 2A

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

RATING & MILEAGE: Moderate to strenuous: steep, rocky, rock scrambling – 5 miles

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

Belleplain State Forest

Traveling to Cape May County

Located along the southern border of the Pine Barrens, Belleplain State Forest features better growing conditions for the native vegetation than in the drier, sandier interior. Our hike will take us along the shore of Lake Nummy, which was once part of a cranberry growing operation.

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

DATE: Sunday, January 26.....424236 – 2B

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

RATING & MILEAGE: Easy to moderate (due to length): flat, some wet spots – 7 miles

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

Indian Rock Hike

Traveling to Passaic County

We will pass through an abandoned and overgrown 19th century gunpowder works before climbing Ramapo Mountain and hiking along the shore of Ramapo Lake. The return leg will feature scenic vistas of the Wanaque Reservoir.

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

DATE: Sunday, February 9.....424236 – 2C

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

RATING & MILEAGE: Moderate to Strenuous: steep, rocky, may be slippery - 5.5 miles

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

HIKES

Maple Root Branch Hike

Our hike will take us through one of the multiple Toms River Corridor Conservation Areas acquired by the Natural Lands Trust program. We will hike past abandoned cranberry bogs and around a sand mining pit now filled with water. We will then travel through upland oak forest, cedar swamps and open fields. Some areas may be muddy.

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

DATE: Sunday, February 23.....THIS PROGRAM IS FULL.....424236 – 2D

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

RATING & MILEAGE: Easy: flat, may be wet – 5 miles

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

Mahlon Dickerson Reservation Hike

Traveling to Morris County

This hike will have us climbing to Headley overlook, up to the highest point in Morris County- 1,395 feet, and then along the Ogden Mine Railroad bed, which was built in 1855. We will hike and cross several streams and over undulating terrain through mountain laurel and hemlock.

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

DATE: Sunday, March 2.....424236 – 2E

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 7:30 am – 4:30 pm

RATING & MILEAGE: Moderate to Strenuous (due to length): rocky footing and river crossings, may be slippery – 7 miles

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

Whispering Pines & Atlantic White Cedar Trails Hike

Traveling to Burlington County

Join us as we explore these newer trails, which are a cooperative project between Medford Vincentown Rotary Club and Wharton State Forest. The hike will afford us views of pitch pine and oak forests, Atlantic white cedar swamps and abandoned cranberry bogs.

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

DATE: Friday, March 7.....THIS PROGRAM IS FULL.....424236 – 2F

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

RATING & MILEAGE: Easy to moderate: flat, some sugar sand – 5.5 miles

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

Mount Hike

Traveling to Burlington County

Before railroads and later automobiles brought visitors to New Jersey's coast, people and material were moved by horse or wagon on winding sandy roads, where occasional taverns offered food and lodging to weary travelers. Our hike will take us along portions of the Quaker Bridge Road, a former stage route, pausing at the former site of Mount Tavern, which dated back to 1839.

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

DATE: Friday, March 21THIS PROGRAM IS FULL.....424236 – 2G

DEPARTURE & RETURN: 8:30 am - 2:00 pm

RATING & MILEAGE: Easy to Moderate: flat, sugar sand - 5.5 miles

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

VAN TOURS

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

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

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

Birding the North Shore

Waterfowl are abundant in Ocean and Monmouth Counties this time of year. We will meander our way along the coast stopping at ponds and scanning the ocean looking for Mergansers, Grebes, Ducks and Gulls. **Bring your binoculars, pack a lunch, dress for the weather (layering is best) and be prepared for short walks.**

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

DATE: Thursday, January 16.....424516 – 2A

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 9 years – Adult

Winter Eagle Festival

Traveling to Cumberland County

Cumberland County's Winter Eagle Festival provides opportunities for bird watching and walks, visiting displays from local nature and non-profits organizations, and listening to talks by speakers such as Don Freiday, Pete Dunne and Pat and Clay Sutton. Bring binoculars/cameras and money for food or items to purchase. Pack a lunch or snacks/drinks, dress for the weather and to be prepared for walks on uneven ground and climbing viewing platforms. **There will be an additional charge of \$10.00/Adult and \$5.00/Child 12 & under. Indoor activities are at the firehouse where hot food and drinks are available for purchase.**

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

DATE: Saturday, February 1.....424516 – 2B

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 7:30 am – 4:30 pm

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 9 years - Adult

Eagles & Waterfowl along the Delaware Bayshore

The magnificence of our national bird amidst the snow and ice is a sight not soon forgotten but there are also a wide variety of other birds to be seen this time of year along the Delaware Bayshore. Join us as we explore the nooks and crannies of the Delaware to find these magnificent birds. **Due to the remoteness of our destinations, this trip has minimum bathroom breaks. Dress for the weather, pack a lunch and bring your binoculars.**

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

DATE: Thursday, February 20.....424516 – 2C

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 9 years - Adult

VAN TOURS

Waterfowl of Barnegat Bay to Brigantine

We will head to Barnegat Light for views of Harlequin and Long-tailed Ducks, as well as Scoters and Purple Sandpipers. Next we will visit the Brigantine Division of the Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge, which will hopefully offer excellent views of a variety of waterfowl species, thousands of Snow Geese, over-wintering Tundra Swans and a chance sighting of a Bald Eagle. **Be prepared to walk up to 1.5 miles in sand. Wear appropriate footwear and winter gear. Bring your binoculars, pack a lunch, dress for the weather. Layering is best.**

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

DATE: Friday, February 28.....424516 – 2D

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 8:00 am – 4:00 pm

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 9 years - Adult

Forgotten Towns & Other Historic Sites of Atlantic County

Henry Charlton Beck popularized the forgotten towns of southern New Jersey with his newspaper articles and books in the early 1900s. As so many have done since, we will retrace his steps, exploring the long-vanished company towns and agricultural villages that once flourished in the New Jersey Pine Barrens. **Pack a lunch, dress for the weather and be prepared to walk over uneven ground and through underbrush. Bug spray with DEET is recommended.**

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

DATE: Thursday, March 27.....424516 – 2E

DATE: Saturday, March 29.....424516 – 2F

DEPARTURE/RETURN: 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: 9 years - Adult



Bald Eagle at the Boat Dock at the Ocean County Parks & Recreation Administration Offices along the Silver Bay in Toms River

Ocean County Parks

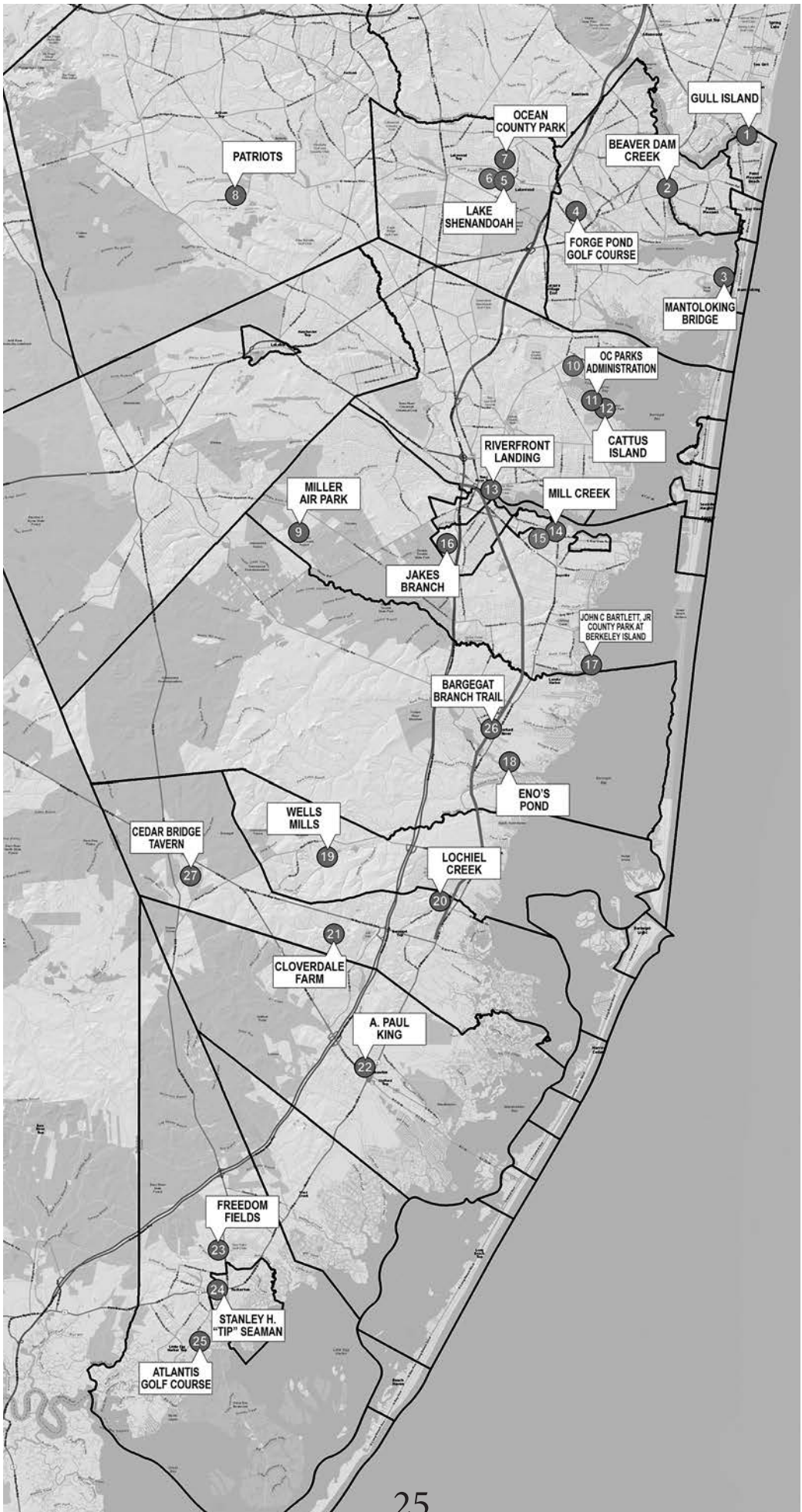
Ocean County Parks and Recreation offers a wide variety of outdoor activities in 27 parks and conservation areas. With over 4000 acres of preserved and well maintained land you can enjoy hiking, biking, swimming, canoeing, fishing, ball fields, tennis courts, playgrounds and so much more. With parks from Point Pleasant to Tuckerton you're sure to find an adventure near you.

Ocean County Golf Courses

Ocean County is home to many challenging golf courses. Among these are two public courses maintained by the Department of Parks and Recreation. Forge Pond Golf Course was ranked in the top 20 public golf courses to play in NJ by Golf Advisor. Atlantis Golf Course is a much longer course than Forge Pond but to some golf enthusiasts is one of the best layouts in the state of New Jersey.

Ocean County Natural Lands Trust Fund

The Ocean County Natural Lands Trust Program was established in 1997 as a way to preserve the natural beauty of Ocean County and protect our watershed. By preserving open space we have established over 17,000 acres of land for public use. The public can enjoy many activities from kayaking along the bay, to hiking miles of trail, or hunting on over 13,000 acres.



Ocean County Parks Nature Lessons

YouTube

<https://bit.ly/NatureLessonVideos>



Keeping Wildlife WILD

Ocean County Parks & R...



Cranberries: Ocean County History &...

Ocean County Parks & R...



Virtual Nature Lessons: Meet th...

Ocean County Parks & R...



Seining Silver Bay at Cattus Island...

Ocean County Parks & R...



Cattus Salt Marsh Revisited as...

Ocean County Parks & R...



OCParks: Cuban Tree Frogs

Ocean County Parks & R...



KIDS CRAFTS: NATURE PICTURE...

Ocean County Parks & R...



Snapping Turtles of Cattus Island

Ocean County Parks & R...



Cattus Island's Carnivorous Plants

Ocean County Parks & R...



051520WellsFeeder

Ocean County Parks & R...



Plants of Wells Mills County Park

Ocean County Parks & R...



Page's Point...Science,...

Ocean County Parks & R...



Pine Barrens Industries

Ocean County Parks & R...



Short Hike on the Blue Trail at Cattus...

Ocean County Parks & R...



Meet the Northern Pine Snake

Ocean County Parks & R...



Tour of the Cooper Environmental...

Ocean County Parks & R...



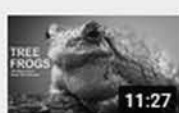
NATURE LESSONS: Owls are a HOOT!

Ocean County Parks & R...



Early Spring on the Salt Marsh

Ocean County Parks & R...



The Eastern Tree Frog

Ocean County Parks & R...



Science Lesson: Doctor Dude

Ocean County Parks & R...

WINTER BEACH BLAST

FREE Ocean County Mall ~ Toms River

Saturday ~ February 15

1:00pm - 4:00pm

Giant Twister Game

Crafts

Cool...Fun Games

SUMMER FUN...IN WINTER



The Affair at CEDAR BRIDGE

Sunday DECEMBER 1, 2024

200 Old Halfway Road, Barnegat, New Jersey



The Affair at Cedar Bridge 1782

"The Affair at Cedar Bridge," a reenactment of the last land engagement of the American Revolutionary War that took place at the Cedar Bridge Tavern

Sunday, 12/1, 2024 10 AM to 4 PM Skirmishes at 12:00 and 2:00 PM

Refreshments including period Switchel drink, Fire Pit, NJ Fifes & Drums

Sea Dogs – Traditional Tavern musicians, Historic style tents, Giant Chess and Checkers, Crafts, Painting, Archery, Games, Story Telling and Guided Tour of the restored tavern.

Cattus Island Gingerbread House Contest



Categories include:
Youth (0-6) (7-12)
Teen (13-17) & Adult (18+)

Create and enter your very own Gingerbread House with the theme "Out in Nature". Entries must be mounted on a 12"x12" board, & no taller than 12". It must be constructed of edible materials.

Entries can be dropped off at the Cooper Environmental Center from Dec. 18-22 from 10am-4:30pm

In-person

People's

Choice Voting

Dec. 26 - Jan. 5

10:00am - 4:00pm



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.

Family/Pet Photos with Santa Claus

FREE



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

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

All Pets Must be on a Leash

This event is "first come first served."

LOCATION: Black (paved) Path to the Cooper Environmental Center
DATE: Sunday, December 15 11:00am-2:00pm FREE All Ages

Lighting Up Nature

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

December 13 thru 16

6 - 8 pm

FREE!!



JAKES BRANCH COUNTY PARK
1100 Double Trouble Road, Beachwood

WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION

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

**FREE
EVENT**

Saturday, December 14 ~ 10am - 2pm

Horse Carriage Rides 11am-2pm

Cattus Island County Park

Cooper Environmental Center



Brought to you by the Ocean County Board of Commissioners - Virginia E. Haines - Chairwoman of Parks and Recreation
Barbara Jo Crea, Virginia E. Haines, John P. Kelly, Gary Quinn, Frank Sadeghi

Atlantis Golf Course

Atlantis Golf Course is an exceptional par-72 championship course. It is meticulously maintained and has many challenging holes, such as the scenic but tricky par-three sixth hole, where the golfer must negotiate a pond in the middle of the fairway in order to reach the green. A full-service restaurant is on the premises and open to the public.

Forge Pond Golf Course

Forge Pond is a perfectly manicured par-60 executive course tucked into a 300-acre conservation area. These fairways offer a challenge to even the most experienced golfer, yet allow the novice to perfect his game. Here too, rates are very reasonable, especially for resident senior citizens.



**Atlantis Golf Course
261 Country Club Boulevard
Little Egg Harbor, NJ
609-296-2444**



**Forge Pond Golf Course
301 Chambers Bridge Road
Brick, NJ
(732) 920-8899**

RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS TREES



Cattus Island County Park, Toms River
Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat
Wells Mills County Park, Waretown
Ocean County Park, Lakewood
Beaver Dam County Park, Point Pleasant
Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood
Mill Creek County Park, Berkeley
Enos Pond County Park, Forked River
Robert J. Miller Airpark, Berkeley
Freedom Fields County Park, Little Egg Harbor
Patriots County Park, Jackson
Stanley H. "Tip" Seaman County Park, Tuckerton
A. Paul King County Park, Stafford
Atlantis Golf Course, Little Egg Harbor
Forge Pond Golf Course, Brick

Brought to you by the County of Ocean Board of Commissioners



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

Freedom Fields

Little Egg Harbor Township

Ocean County Park

Lakewood

Robert J. Miller

Air Park

Berkeley Township

For more information contact:

(732) 506-9090

CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS

Pottery Classes

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

LOCATION: Pottery Barn, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATES: Tuesdays, February 11 – April 29

TIMES: 10:00 am -12:00 pm.....FULL.....421384 – 2A

5:00 – 7:00 pm.....FULL.....421384 – 2B

7:00 – 9:00 pm.....421384 – 2C

DATE: Wednesdays, February 12 – April 30

10:00 am – 12:00 noon.....FULL.....421384 – 2D

FEE: \$180.00, includes expert instruction, firing and glazing

AGE: Adult

Snowman Paddle

Welcome the winter season with these charming hand-painted decorative snowman paddles! Each snowman paddle is made from wood and you will hand paint and design them to your own unique crafting style. These versatile snowmen paddles can be used as wall art, a tray, or even as a part of a seasonal display on your mantel or table.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Tom River

DATE: Thursday, January 9.....421186 – 2A

DATE: Thursday, January 23.....421186-3A

TIME: 6:00-8:00 pm

FEE: \$20.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Sandy Snow Globes

Using a combination of Pine Barrens sand and local beach sand, we will make snow globes - bringing a touch of summer into a fun indoor winter activity!

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Sunday, January 12.....425186 – 1A

TIME: 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

FEE: \$12.00 per person

AGE: 12 years – Adult

No Business Like Snow Business

“Oh the weather outside is frightful” so take a break and create some warm, whimsical and unique snowman crafts. Best of all they won't melt.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, January 16.....421186 – 2B

TIME: 6:30 – 8:30 pm

FEE: \$20.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Felt Needled Cardinal

During this beginner-level class led by guest instructor Lissette of The Needling Fox, you will make a beautiful cardinal to brighten your winter days. All supplies and a **take-home kit** will be provided so participants can keep honing their skills with this fun, new hobby.

Please have \$45 in exact change to cover instructor fees and material costs.

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Saturday, January 18.....FULL.....426186 – 1A

TIME: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: 15 years – Adult



CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS

Pinecone Pomander

Utilizing pinecones from our park, these pretty pinecone pomanders can be used as decor inside or out- sure to add winter cheer wherever they hang.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, January 25.....FULL.....425186 – 1C

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 16 years - Adult

Hot Cocoa Crafts

January 31st is National Hot Chocolate Day! Come by to make a hot chocolate craft you can hang up, or make into a magnet. Craft will involve gluing and paint so plan attire accordingly. We will also enjoy some hot cocoa.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Friday, January 31425186 - 1D

TIME: 10:30 - 11 :30 am

FEE: \$8.00 per team (1 Child, 1 Adult)

AGE: 5 years - Adult



Woven Wheat 6-inch Heart

The practice of 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 Mid-western art form, prepare the wheat, soak the straw, and create a masterpiece. No prior experience 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: Thursday, February 6.....426186 – 1B

TIME: 10:00 am – 12:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: 16 years – Adult

Winter Theme Needle Felting

Join staff member Taylor as she shares her personal interest and skill set in the art of needle felting. This is great for participants that are just becoming acquainted with the hobby. In-class supplies will be provided.

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, February 8.....FULL.....425186 – 1B

TIME: 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

FEE: \$20.00 per person

AGE: 16 years – Adult

CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS

Valentine's Trivet

This is a hands-on workshop in creating a decorative and functional mosaic trivet. We will make a unique art decor for the kitchen and the dinner table. Learn how to arrange, glue and grout ceramic tiles to create a one-of-a-kind handmade mosaic trivet (the mosaic tiles will be valentine colors this time around).

All workshop materials provided by instructor

Please bring exact cash or a check payable to instructor Harry Belkowitz for \$50.00

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, February 12421186 – 2C

TIME: 1:00 – 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

Hand Broom Class

Join Mary May as we dust away our winter blues with this new, fun and challenging class in making a hand broom. This beautiful yet functional tool is perfect for getting in the nooks of the house. **Please bring a bagged lunch or snack and have \$45 in exact change for the instructor and materials.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Friday, February 14426186 – 1C

TIME: 10:00 am–2:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: 10 years – Adult



Create Your Own Walking Stick

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

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

DATE: Sunday, February 16.....422186 – 3A

TIME: 12:30 - 3:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: 11 years – Adult



CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS

Pinecone Gnomes

What do you know about Gnomes? They live in the forest of course! Nature and Gnomes go hand-in-hand, so Jersey gnomes must love the Pine Barrens. Join us as we add a little pine to our crafting and create some cute pinecone gnomes sure to brighten up any space they sit!

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, February 22.....425186 – 1F

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$8.00 per person

AGE: 16 years – Adult

Luck of the Irish

Come and design your own St. Patrick's large door tags just in time for the March season. Handmade from beautiful pinewood you will paint, label with an Irish saying in vinyl and seal them. As for project number two you will design your own shamrock to hang in your home for the holiday season.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, February 27FULL.....421186 – 2D

DATE: Thursday, March 6.....FULL.....421186 - 3B

TIME: 6:30 – 8:30 pm

FEE: \$20.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Smudging Made Simple

Smudging is an ancient practice used by many indigenous peoples to purify and cleanse objects, spaces and people. It is said to remove negative energy, thoughts and even emotions, promoting balance and harmony for the mind, body and spirit. Many of the herbs used in smudges have medicinal benefits, both when burned and used in other applications. We will be examining the art of smudging, including how smudge sticks are made, how to use them, and the plants used. Each participant will leave with their own smudge stick they will make on their own! **Program will involve small amounts of plant smoke, please list any related medical concerns when registering.**

LOCATION: Classroom, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Saturday, March 1.....FULL.....425186 – 1G

TIME: 10:30 – 11:30 am

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: 14 years - Adult



Woven Wheat 5-inch Cross

During this program, Christine Metzler will teach you a new weave pattern using gentle, angular folds that will create an elegant cross. Your woven cross will be a perfect gift for Saint Patrick's Day or can be used as decor this Easter season. No prior experience 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: Wednesday, March 5.....426186 – 1D

TIME: 10:00 am – 12:30 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: 16 years – Adult

Dragonfly Trio

Take a flight of fancy with a trio of unique dragonflies. Using simple items and a bit of imagination, our dragonflies will soar.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, March 27.....421186 – 2E

TIME: 6:30 – 8:30 pm

FEE: \$20.00 per person

AGE: Adult

CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS

South Jersey Basket Making

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



Winter Weaving Weekend Nesting Low Apple Basket Workshop

During this three-day consecutive workshop series, you will complete a total of three exquisite hand-crafted nesting apple baskets (8, 10, and 12 inches) perfect for a center-piece collection on your dining room table or mantle. These mold-woven baskets have a beautifully crafted design all while maintaining the strength of traditional apple baskets.

Please bring a bagged lunch or snack and have \$145 in exact change for the instructor and materials.

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES: Friday, January 10 – Sunday, January 12426186 – 1E

TIME: 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

Basketry and Wool

As part of this program, you will have the opportunity to not only weave your very own small hanging basket but also dabble in creating your own lavender wool accent pieces to decorate your basket. This class is perfect for any skill level. **Please bring a bagged lunch or snack and have \$65 in exact change for the instructor and materials.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Friday, February 28.....FULL.....426186 – 1F

TIME: 10:00 am–4:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult



March Melon Basket Series

These melon-shaped egg baskets are absolutely stunning with their eye and rib construction. We will start with a 4-inch basket perfect for beginners and those wishing to master the technique before advancing to the 8-inch-sized basket. **Please bring a bagged lunch or snack and have \$85 in exact change for the instructor and materials.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATE: Friday, March 7 & 14.....FULL.....426186 – 1G

TIME: 10:00 am–4:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

ACTIVE RECREATION

Seniorcise Exercise

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

LOCATION: Program Room, Jakes Branch County Park, Beachwood

DATE: Tuesdays and Fridays (7 classes per session)

SESSION 1: January 7 – January 28.....423123 – 3A

SESSION 2: January 31 – February 21.....423123 – 3B

TIME: 9:15 - 10:00 am

FEE: \$60.00 per person

AGE: Adult

Walk N' Workout

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

LOCATION: Meet outside Nature Center, Cattus Island County Park, T.R.

DATE: Tuesdays and Fridays

SESSION 1: January 7 – January 28.....**CANCELED**.....423123 – 3C

SESSION 2: January 31 – February 21.....423123 – 3D

TIME: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 registration fee per person

AGE: Adult

Chair Stretch

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

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Tuesdays and Fridays (7 classes per session)

SESSION 1: January 7 – January 28423123 – 3E

SESSION 2: January 31 – February 21.....423123 – 3F

TIME: 1:15 – 1:45 pm

FEE: \$5.00 registration fee per person

AGE: Adult

Tai Chi with a Yoga Twist

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

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Tuesdays and Fridays (7 classes per session)

SESSION 1: January 7 – January 28423123 – 3G

SESSION 2: January 31 – February 21423123 – 3H

TIME: 2:00 - 2:45 pm

FEE: \$5.00 registration fee per person

AGE: Adult

ACTIVE RECREATION

A Walk in the Park “Southern Edition”

Have you been interested in exploring some new parks within the Ocean County Parks system but didn't know where to start? Then this is the class for you. We will meet at a new park every week and explore the unique beauty each park has to offer. We will be walking at a brisk pace to get some cardiovascular benefits for about 1 hour. Walking is a great low-impact exercise that can help manage your weight, relieve stress, and improve your mood. **Please wear comfortable sneakers or boots and bring a drink.**

LOCATIONS WHERE WE WILL BE MEETING:

1/22: Burr Street Parking Lot, Barnegat Branch Trail, Barnegat

1/29: Nature Center, Wells Mills County Park, Waretown

2/5: Parking Lot, Lochiel Creek County Park, Barnegat

2/12: Nature Center, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

2/19: Cedar Bridge Tavern Historical Site, Barnegat

DATE: Wednesdays, January 22 – February 19423123 – 3K

TIME: 10:00 -11:00 am

FEE: \$14.00 per person

AGE: Adult

ZUMBA GOLD

Zumba Gold is the low-impact version of the dance and fitness program Zumba. While the class is designed for active older adults, all are welcome to join. No experience is necessary! Various genres of music will be incorporated. This new program is 5 weeks long. **Please wear sneakers and bring some water. Have a check for \$35.00 made payable to Gabrielle Molino on the first day of class.** Gabrielle is a licensed Zumba instructor and has been teaching Zumba for over 10 years. This is a women's only class.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesdays

SESSION 1: January 8 – February 5.....423123 – 3I

SESSION 2: February 19 – March 19.....423123 – 3J

TIME: 11:30 am – 12:15 pm

FEE: \$5.00 registration fee per person

AGE: Adult

Beginners Geocaching Challenge

Geocaching is a high-tech treasure hunt. It's a great way to get outdoors and exercise the gray matter. Adventure seekers equipped with GPS devices search for hidden containers, called geocaches. Geocaching also involves an online community where information is shared and members develop a strong sense of community and support for the environment. After a brief introduction to Geocaching, participants will be given coordinates and turned loose in the park after a multi-cache. The first team to find the final cache will receive a prize. **You will need a GPS unit or an equivalent smart-phone app to participate. Participants must be able to walk two miles over uneven terrain.**

LOCATION: Beach Complex – Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Saturday, January 25.....428466 – 3A

TIME: 12:00 - 3:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person

AGE: 14 years – Adult

Archery for Adults

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

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

DATE: Saturday, March 29.....This Program is FULL.....429123 – 9A

TIME: 1:00 - 3:00 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: Adult

ACTIVE RECREATION

Yoga Programs

Chair Yoga

Restore your flexibility and boost your strength while learning chair yoga poses that will help carry away daily stress and anxiety. This program is hosted by yoga teacher and health coach, Kim Buono. **Please bring \$40 the first day of class for the four-class session. Please wear loose comfortable clothing.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES: Wednesdays, February 5 – 26.....426123 – 1A

TIME: 10:00 – 10:45 am

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: 16 years – Adult

Beginners Yoga at the Bogs

The morning hours are the perfect time to give your body and soul the attention they deserve. This program is hosted by yoga teacher and health coach, Kim Buono. Please bring \$40 the first day of class for the four-class session. **Please wear loose comfortable clothing & bring a yoga mat. Class will be held outside if the temperature allows. If there is inclement or cold weather, the program will be held inside.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Cloverdale Farm County Park, Barnegat

DATES: Wednesdays, March 12, 19, 26 and April 2.....426123 – 1B

TIME: 10:00 – 10:45 am

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGES: 16 years – Adult

Friday Night Yoga

Keep calm and try yoga. This 6 week-long class is designed for students of any level interested in furthering their yoga knowledge. The practice of yoga benefits the body, mind, and spirit. Focus on exercise, breathing, and meditation for a transforming experience.

Feel free to move at your comfort level. Please wear loose, comfortable clothing and bring a yoga mat. Lores Way is a registered yoga instructor with the Yoga Alliance

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Fridays, January 31- March 7th.....423123 - 3V

TIME: 6:30 - 7:30 pm

FEE: \$40.00 per person

AGE: 16 years – Adult



ACTIVE RECREATION

Pickleball Programs

Intro to Pickleball

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

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

DATE: Tuesdays, March 18 – April 8.....423123 – 3P

TIME: 10:00 – 11:30 am

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

DATE: Tuesdays, March 18 - April 8.....423123 – 3Q

TIME: 12:00 – 1:30 pm

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

DATE: Thursdays, March 20 – April 10.....423123 – 3R

TIME: 5:00 – 6:30 pm

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

DATE: Wednesdays, March 26 – April 16.....423123 – 3S

TIME: 3:00 – 4:30 pm

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 review positioning and strategy to help get you on your way. Equipment will be available if needed. **Please wear sneakers and bring a drink. You must have taken the Intro to Pickleball BEFORE taking this class.**

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

DATE: Thursdays, March 20 – April 3.....423123- 3T

TIME: 3:00 – 4:30 pm

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

DATE: Wednesdays, March 26 – April 9.....423123 – 3U

TIME: 1:00 – 2:30 pm

FEE: \$10.00 per person

AGE: Adult

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Crystal Bowl Meditation

6 weeks of sound and music can be powerful tools in the healing process. The sound vibrations emanating from the crystal singing bowls re-tune the listener's body by opening and rebalancing chakras. The bowl meditation will bring about a deeper sense of well-being and help reduce negative effects of stress. We will use aromatherapy from time to time. **(Please bring a yoga mat, pillow or blanket for comfort) Please bring exact cash or check payable to Instructor Karen English for \$60.00.**

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Session 1: Mondays, January 6 – February 10.....421544 – 2A
(no class January 20)

DATE: Session 2: Mondays, February 24 – March 31.....421544 – 2B

TIME: 6:15 – 7:15 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

Mediation for Busy Women

If you've ever considered introducing a meditation practice into your life, this is the class for you! In this six-week session, you'll learn different styles of meditation and take home methods to begin an at-home practice of your own. Meditation done on a daily basis reduces stress, improves memory as well as your ability to focus, improves the quality of sleep and helps you develop the mental discipline needed to avoid unhelpful habits.

If you think you don't have the time, let me change your mind! **(Please bring a mat, blankets, and pillows and wear comfortable clothes.** Aromatherapy will be provided. A journal will be helpful as well).

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, January 7 – February 11.....421544 – 2C

DATE: Session 2: Tuesdays, February 18 – March 25.....421544 – 2D

TIME: 6:15-7:15 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

Renew & Refresh Your Skin using Essential Oils

Rejuvenate and pamper your winter skin with the use of essential oils. In this hands-on workshop you will make and take a soothing salt scrub and a skin nourishing body oil. Learn how and why essential oils offer support to your overall well-being. All recipes and supplies will be provided.

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

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, February 12.....421544 – 2E

TIME: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult



HEALTH & WELLNESS

Managing Pain through Body-Mind Self-Care Practices

Head Release for Self-Care:

Pain and discomfort is often experienced in the upper body. Learn acupressure and body-mind self-care practices and strategies to relieve head and headache pain, sinus congestion, neck pain, eye pressure, colds, and throat conditions. ***Please bring exact cash or a check payable to Instructor Regina Rosenthal for \$20.00***

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, January 30.....421544 – 2F

TIME: 6:30 – 9:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

Abdominal Release for Self-Care

The gut, or second brain, is often a place where emotions are stored and nutritional components are impacted. Learn acupressure and body-mind self-care practices and strategies to help relieve and balance appetite abnormalities, improve circulation to and from the feet, relieve gastritis, and reduce stomach and intestinal congestion. ***Please bring exact cash or a check payable to Instructor Regina Rosenthal for \$20.00***

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, February 6.....421544 – 2G

TIME: 6:30 – 9:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

Hip, Knee, Foot, Ankle Release for Self-Care

Back, lower body, and leg pain are experienced by many individuals. Learn acupressure and body-mind self-care practices and strategies to relieve and balance hypertension, insomnia, knee problems, sciatica, plantar fasciitis, arthritis, and headache related pain.

Please bring exact cash or a check payable to Instructor Regina Rosenthal for \$20.00

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, February 13.....421544 – 2H

TIME: 6:30 – 9:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult

Great Central Channel Release and Chakra Balancing for Self-Care

The acupressure protocol and Chakra Tai Chi movement meditation we will practice helps to support and promote postural alignment, grounding, centering, revitalizing, well-being, and conscious attunement with our life path and purpose. ***Please bring exact cash or a check payable to Instructor Regina Rosenthal for \$20.00***

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Thursday, February 20.....421544 – 2I

TIME: 6:30 – 9:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: Adult



BUS TRIP

2025 Philadelphia Flower Show at the Convention Center

The Philadelphia Flower Show is the nation's largest and longest-running horticultural event and features stunning displays by the world's premier floral and landscape designers. This trip offers the opportunity to explore historic Reading Terminal Market directly across the street from the convention. The theme for 2025 is still a mystery but it is guaranteed to be amazing.

Admission ticket into Flower show is not included but can be purchased online or upon arrival

PICK-UP: Depart from the Beach Complex, Ocean County Park, Lakewood

DATE: Tuesday March 4, 2025.....FLWER25

TIME: Bus departs at 8:00 am and returns approximately 6:30 pm

FEE: \$60.00 (includes round trip bus transportation only)

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 \$50.00 payable to Ocean Side CPR.

LOCATION: Program Room, Parks Administration Office, Toms River

DATE: Wednesday, January 8.....421166 – 8A

DATE: Wednesday, February 5.....421166 – 8B

DATE: Wednesday, March 5.....421166 – 8C

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, January 22.....421166 – 8D

DATE: Wednesday, February 19.....421166 – 8E

DATE: Wednesday, March 19.....421166 – 8F

TIME: 6:30 – 9:00 pm

FEE: \$5.00 per person registration fee

AGE: 14 years - Adult



DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

PARKS HOME FIND A PARK ABOUT PROGRAMS UPDATES THINGS TO DO BIG TREE REGISTRY CONTACT

23 MILES OF HIKING TRAILS

Visit Wells Mills County Park

CORONAVIRUS UPDATES

LATEST UPDATES

RESTROOMS CLOSED AT CLOVERDALE

The restrooms at Cloverdale Farm County Park will be closed until at least Thursday. We will update here.

[Read More...](#)

VIRTUAL NATURE LESSONS

YouTube video nature lessons from your Ocean County Parks.

[Read More...](#)

FALL PROGRAM GUIDE 2022

Links to our Fall Program Guide and registration information



PARKS

Ocean County Parks and Recreation offers a wide variety of outdoor activities in 27 parks and conservation areas. With over 4000 acres of preserved and well maintained land you can enjoy hiking, biking, swimming, canoeing, fishing, ball fields, tennis courts, playgrounds and so much more. With parks from Point Pleasant to Tuckerton you're sure to find an adventure near you.

[View All](#)



GOLF

Ocean County is home to many challenging golf courses. Among these are two public courses maintained by the Department of Parks and Recreation. Forge Pond Golf Course was ranked in the top 20 public golf courses to play in NJ by Golf Advisor. Atlantis Golf Course is a much longer course than Forge Pond but to some golf enthusiasts is one of the best layouts in the state of NJ.

[Learn More](#)



NATURAL LANDS TRUST FUND

The Ocean County Natural Lands Trust Program was established in 1997 as a way to preserve the natural beauty of Ocean County, and protect our watershed. By preserving open space we have established over 17,000 acres of land for public use. The public enjoy many activities from kayaking along the bay, to hiking miles of trail, or hunting on over 13,000 acres.

[Learn More](#)



PROGRAM GUIDE

In our online guide you'll find detailed descriptions of all the programs available in the parks system. There are organized hikes, van tours and trips, educational and art classes, wellness programs and so much more. In the guide you'll find something for everyone; from Pre-K fun to senior exercise classes.

[View Program Guide](#)



SPECIAL EVENTS

Throughout the year we offer a wide variety of special events ranging from the Annual Decoy and Gunning Show in Tuckerton to the Beach Ball-A-Palooza in Toms River. Other events include the Pine Barrens Jamboree, The Awesome Autumn Festival and the Recreation Celebration... just to name a few.

[View Events](#)



VIRTUAL NATURE LESSONS

Teachers, Parents, Students: Our Virtual Nature Lessons are a growing collection of videos done in our Ocean County Parks and hosted by our Park Naturalists. In these times of COVID-19, with limited class trips and outdoor activities, we want to offer you the Ocean County Park's experience... virtually.

[Learn More](#)



CULTURAL & HERITAGE

Formed in 1969, the Ocean County Cultural & Heritage Commission is the primary leader and catalyst in promoting the arts and cultural heritage in Ocean County. The commission runs peer reviewed grant programs distributing nearly \$2 million, technical support, nearly 50,000 copies of Out & About and historic preservation leadership.

[Learn More](#)

NJ FOREST FIRE SERVICE

[LEARN MORE >](#)

SPORTS STAFF WANTED



Competitive Salary

SPORTS STAFF

**Needed for
OCEAN COUNTY PARKS
& RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

2025

All applications are due by February 14

Applicants must be:

17 YEARS or OLDER

OCEAN COUNTY RESIDENTS

VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE

**If you have any questions or wish to apply please contact:
(732) 506-9090 x5951**

LIFEGUARDS WANTED



CERTIFIED LIFEGUARDS Wanted for OCEAN COUNTY PARKS BEACH 2025 A.PAUL KING COUNTY PARK MANAHAWKIN

**Competitive
Salary**



**Reimbursement
for
Certifications**

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

**Apply: Ocean County Department of Parks and Recreation
1198 Bandon Road
Toms River, NJ 08753
Call: (732) 506-9090 X 5956 or Email: bcostigan@co.ocean.nj.us
for information/application**



WINTER IN YOUR OCEAN COUNTY PARKS

Cloverdale Farm County Park



Ocean County Park



Jakes Branch County Park



Wells Mills County Park



Ocean County Park



Barnegat Branch Trail



Cattus Island County Park

Bird Feeder Bandit or Fantastic Forester?



Nature Up Close – Eastern Gray Squirrel

Eastern Gray Squirrels are mammals that have the knack to delight or dismay. These agile, problem-solving rodents are among a group of more than 200 species of squirrels world-wide. Often best known for their acrobatic antics or seemingly indecisive nature when crossing a road, gray squirrels play an important role in what's known as seed dispersal. As winter approaches, squirrels carry their food and bury it in several locations. They hide more food than they will recover and eat. The forgotten nuts and seeds will eventually sprout leading to a natural method of replanting forests.

Squirrel “Digs”

Gray squirrels will use old woodpecker holes or natural tree cavities as dens to live in and raise young. Gray squirrels will also build large nests composed of leaves and twigs. Generally, dens are made at least 20 feet off the ground. Gray squirrels are often social and will share their nests with other gray squirrels during certain times of the year.



On The Menu.....

Considered omnivores, gray squirrels primary foods are nuts, flowers, seeds, insects, mushrooms...and let's not forget your backyard bird feeder!

Fun Facts

- Gray squirrels are very vocal animals that use a variety of calls, including harsh squalls, warning barks, chucks, mews, purrs, and tooth chattering, to communicate with other squirrels.
- Eastern gray squirrels typically live up to 3 years in the wild, though some wild squirrels have been found to reach the ripe age of 13.

Did you Know

National Squirrel Appreciation Day is celebrated on January 21?





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



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

Search: MyOCParks on INSTAGRAM

www.oceancountyparks.org



Find us on the web at
www.oceancountyparks.org

or download our
Moblie app:

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



(732) 506-9090

Recreation Program Policy and Information

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

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

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

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE/ACCOMMODATIONS available upon request

For program availability or a program guide please call:

(732) 506-9090

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

REGISTRATION LOCATIONS:

Monday – Friday 8:30am to 3:30pm

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

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

Wells Mills County Park, Waretown 609-971-3085

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 ____/____/____

MAIL-IN REGISTRATION PREFERRED REGISTRATION FORM

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

OCEAN COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION PROGRAM REGISTRATION APPLICATION

LAST _____ FIRST _____

ADDRESS _____

APT #/BUILDING _____ TOWN _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____ 4 DIGIT EXT. _____

HOME # () _____

WORK # () _____ EXT # _____

EMERGENCY # () _____ CELL # () _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____ Check # _____

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

***Mail in registration preferred. REGISTRATION WILL BE ACCEPTED BEGINNING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 2 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:			
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:			

Save The Dates!

The Affair at Cedar Bridge



Commemoration of the 1782 (242 years ago)
Affair at Cedar Bridge, at Cedar Bridge Tavern,
200 Old Halfway Road in Barnegat
on Sunday, December 1st from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
Skirmishes at Noon and 2:00 pm...Snow Date Jan 5



Affair at Cedar Bridge December 1

Cedar Bridge Tavern Historic Site
Barnegat

Family/Pet Photos with Santa Claus

FREE



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

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

All Pets Must be on a Leash

This event is "first come first served."

LOCATION: Black (paved) Path to the Cooper Environmental Center
DATE: Sunday, December 15 11:00am-2:00pm FREE All Ages

Photos With Santa December 15

Cattus Island County Park
Toms River

WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION

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



FREE
EVENT

Saturday, December 14 ~ 11am - 3pm

Horse Carriage Rides 11am-2pm

Cattus Island County Park

Cooper Environmental Center

Winter Solstice December 14

Cattus Island County Park
Toms River

Cattus Island Gingerbread House Contest



Create and enter your very
own Gingerbread House with the
theme "Out in Nature".
Entries must be mounted on
a 12"x12" board & no taller than 12"
It must be constructed of
edible materials.
Entries can be dropped off
at the Cooper Environmental Center
from Dec. 18-22 from 10am-4:30pm

In-person

People's
Choice Voting

Dec. 26 - Jan. 5
10:00am - 4:00pm

Categories include:

Youth (0-6) (7-12)
Teen (13-17) & Adult (18+)

Gingerbread House Contest (Drop Off)

December 18-22
Cattus Island, Toms River

Lighting Up Nature

Heading out to drive through your neighborhood to look at
Holiday Lights?... swing by Jakes Branch County Park for their

NEIGHBORHOOD-Style

Drive Thru Display

December 13 thru 16

6 - 8 pm

FREE!!

JAKES BRANCH COUNTY PARK
1100 Double Trouble Road, Beachwood

Lighting Up Nature December 13-16

Jakes Branch County Park
Beachwood

WINTER BEACH BLAST

FREE Ocean County Mall ~ Toms River
Saturday ~ February 15
1:00pm - 4:00pm

Giant Twister Game

Crafts

Cool...Fun Games

SUMMER FUN...IN WINTER

Winter Beach Blast February 15

Ocean County Mall
Toms River

**OCEAN COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION
ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**

1198 Bandon Road

Toms River, New Jersey 08753-3138

(732) 506-9090

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

**Mail in Registration is Preferred
REGISTRATION WILL BE ACCEPTED BEGINNING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 2 FOR PROGRAMS IN THIS ISSUE**

Early Mail-Ins Will Be Returned

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

www.oceancountyparks.org



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

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

