



# Atlantic County Parks Programs January - June 2009

## The Naturalist Niche...

CALL 645-5960 FOR INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION.

### FRIENDS OF THE FOREST NATURE CLUB

Once a month. Ages 6 to 12 years old. Saturdays, Feb. 7; Mar. 7; April 4; May 2; June 6. 10 AM to 11:30 AM.

Get the kids away from Saturday morning TV and into the natural world around them. Activities are both indoors and outdoors and include crafts, games, and walks, to name a few. Each month's topic is different and non-consecutive. Pre-registration is required as space is limited. **No fee.**



### LITTLE LEARNERS' NATURE CLUB

Once a month. Ages 3 to 5 years old. Thursdays, Feb. 5; Mar. 5; April 2; May 14; June 4. 10 AM & 1 PM.

Open to preschoolers ages 3 to 5 accompanied by an adult. Pre-registration is required. Each class will introduce a nature topic using stories, music, crafts, games or walks. Each month's topic is different. Please specify which session you would like to attend when you sign up. **No fee.**

### WINTER RAPTORS/BALD EAGLES ON THE GREAT EGG HARBOR RIVER

Sunday, Feb. 8. Meet at the Lake Lenape Boathouse 8 AM. Participants can come as early as 6:30 AM to see the eagles on the lake. We will explore different areas on the Great Egg Harbor River to observe wintering raptors and other wintering visitors.

### SPRING MIGRANTS

Saturday, April 25. Meet at the Nature Center at 7 AM. Explore various areas for spring visitors.

### WINTER NATURE HIKES

Saturdays, Feb. 7, March 7, 1 PM. Weather permitting, please dress for warmth. Ages 6 to adult. **Children must be accompanied by an adult.** You never know what you may find. Pre-registration required.

### OWL PROWL

Fridays, Jan. 16 & 23 6 PM. Rain/Snow Date Feb. 6. For ages 8- adult.

**Please dress for the cold and bring flashlights.** Come and learn more about our elusive, nocturnal birds. There is a brief indoor introductory program about owls then take a short walk to listen for any hooting. Pre-registration required. **No fee.**

### EXPLORE THE PARK



Have you wanted to hike the north end, but have been afraid of getting lost? Want someone to show you what trails lead where? The Recreation Program Specialist will be available Monday through Friday, through March by appointment to conduct individual and groups on guided tours of Estell Manor Park. Standard tick precautions are recommended. Call Karen Zindell ext. 5378.

## Recreational Romps...

### LITTLE LEARNERS' CRAFT CLASS

Once a month Fridays, Jan. 16; Feb. 20; March 20; April 17; May 15; June 19. 10 AM and 1 PM.

Open to 4 & 5 year old preschoolers accompanied by an adult. Transform everyday objects into works of art with Recreation Program Specialist Karen Zindell. Lots of fun, but potentially messy. Please bring a smock if you have one. Time permitting, children will have the opportunity to "show and tell." Specify which session when registering. **No fee.**

### HIKE LENAPE or HIKE ESTELL

*Lenape:* Sun. May 17; Sat. June 13. 7:30 AM until 9:00 AM. *Rain or Shine.*

Beat the heat! Meet at the Boathouse for a recreational hike through our Lake Lenape tract. Explore new trails, rediscover favorite spots. Pace is geared toward ability of the group. Standard tick precautions are recommended, Binoculars may add to your enjoyment.



*Estell:* Sat. Feb. 14; Sun. March 29; Sat. April 18; 1:30 until 3:30 PM. *Rain or shine.*

Meet at the Fox Nature Center for a recreational hike through Estell Manor Park. **No fee.**



## BEWARE



**Ticks can carry disease.** As you venture outdoors, please take the following precautions:

- Tuck your pant legs into your socks.
- Wear light colored clothing (easier to spot ticks).
- Check yourself frequently during and after a trip outdoors.
- Use insect repellents. Read the product labels carefully.
- Stay on the center of trails and avoid walking through the shrub layer of the forest.

### PUBLIC ORIENTEERING

Sat. Jan. 17; Sun. Feb. 8; Sat. March 14. 11 AM - 3 PM.

Are your children learning to read a map in school? Put on your hiking boots, pack a trail lunch and head to the Estell Manor Park for a three mile orienteering course through the woods. We provide the instructions, maps and a loaner compass. A basic course for the beginner and an intermediate course for the experienced or more adventurous are offered. Please specify course when registering. Children under 13 must have an adult with them. Standard tick precautions are recommended. **No fee.**



**Attention School Groups:** This makes an excellent field trip. Available during the week with advanced arrangements. Call Karen at 645-5960.

### MEMORIAL DAY 2009

Atlantic County Government will hold its annual Memorial Day service on Friday, May 22, 2009 at 3:00 PM at the Atlantic County Veteran's Cemetery located in Estell Manor Park. Please join us in honoring our veterans and active duty military personnel.



### Attention Schools and Groups:

### LOW ROPES, TEAM CHALLENGE COURSE



Weekdays by advanced arrangement  
Atlantic County Park at Camp Acagisca  
Want to have fun, practice problem solving, while establishing group unity? This outdoor experience can meet many objectives for an existing organized group of 6-15 people, age 10 years and above; building leadership skills, improving communication, and developing consensus, to name but a few. The program consists of physical warm-ups, trust building exercises, and course elements which encompass varying degrees of physical, mental, and emotional exertion. It takes at least 6 hours to complete a majority of the elements. All activities are presented on a challenge by choice basis. Group insurance is required. **No Fee.** For more information, contact Karen Zindell at ext. 5378.

### VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION June-November 08



Atlantic County Parks would like to recognize the following dedicated volunteers: The ARC of Atlantic County, Julie Akers, Doris Dackonish, Tom & Joanne Judge, Dave Keefe, Joan Liepe, Amanda Llewellyn and Rutger's Master Gardener volunteers. These volunteers assisted with special events, programs, and Visitor Services, to name but a few of their valuable contributions. If you'd like to lend us your services, please call 645-5960 and ask for Karen Zindell.

### VOLUNTEER OF THE QUARTER

(June - Aug. 2008)

**Dave Keefe, Sr.**



It has been a dozen years since this volunteer first rolled in to inquire about the bicycle repair help wanted sign that he saw posted out at the bike shed. Having experience assembling bicycles for a major toy store, he was interested in using his knowledge to grease the wheels of our borrow-a-bike program. Whether patching flat tires, replacing pedals and seats, or changing ball bearings, no job is too complicated for this bike repair wizard. In last summer's searing heat Dave found extra time to help us move the bike repair facility. This involved multiple trips up and down stairs carrying heavy parts and accessories. Dave always makes sure there are several back up bikes ready to roll to replace any of the bikes that might need repairs between visits.

Dave's volunteerism is not limited to bike repair. His love of both the outdoors and children has prompted him to act as a "sweep" on hikes, the man in charge at the North Pole on the phone, and a prize redeemer at the Holiday Magic program. He has even recruited his own children to get involved with various volunteer activities, and now that they are having children of their own, it is especially remarkable that Dave still finds time to continue his unswerving volunteer service. Due to his outstanding commitment, Dave has become our first volunteer to earn the Volunteer of the Quarter award 5 times. The Atlantic County Park System patrons benefit in numerous ways from the efforts of this fine and dedicated volunteer.

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT #90  
MAYS LANDING, NJ 08330


ATLANTIC COUNTY DIVISION OF PARKS & RECREATION  
6303 Old Harding Highway  
Mays Landing, NJ 08330-4306



Atlantic County Executive  
Dennis Levinson  
Atlantic County Board of Freeholders  
James Curcio  
Chairman

# Atlantic County Parks Programs

## January - June 2009



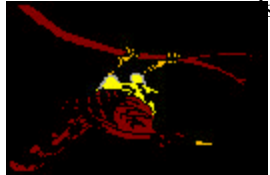
**FOR PROGRAM INFORMATION OR TO REGISTER CALL:**  
Atlantic City Area: 345-6700 • Mays Landing Area: 625-7000 • Northfield Area: 645-7700  
Park Naturalists: Ext. 5375/5373 • Recreation: Ext. 5378  
General Information / Veterans Cemetery: 625-1897  
Park System Reservation Office at Lake Lenape Park: 625-8219  
(camping, boating, pavillion & gazebo rental)  
Atlantic County Web site: [www.laclink.org](http://www.laclink.org) go to Parks and Recreation

**SPRING NIGHT WALK**  
Friday April 24, 7:00 - 9:00 PM. For ages 7 to adult.  
*All children must be accompanied by an adult.*  
Go out looking for anything from frogs to owls with Sr. Naturalist Margaret Attack-Klein. Anything is possible during these early spring nights, depending on the temperature. Be prepared! Dress for the weather; coat, hat, footwear that can get wet, bug spray, and a flashlight. Pre-registration is required as space is limited. **No Fee.**  
**EARLY MORNING BIRD WALK**  
Saturday May 2, 7:00 - 9:00 AM.  
Get ready to sharpen your birding skills! Join Sr. Park Naturalist Margaret Attack-Klein on a walk through Estell Manor Park looking and listening for any of our returning migrants. Bring binoculars, your favorite birding guides, bug spray, and dress for the weather. Pre-registration is required. **No Fee.**

**World Series of Birding**  
Saturday, May 9, 2009 • 12 AM -12 AM  
*YES! Count on me for support.*

\$.05/species     \$.10/species     \$.25/species  
 \$25 flat donation     \$35 flat donation     \$50 flat donation     Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mail this form to: WSB, Atlantic County Parks, 109 State Highway 50, Mays Landing, NJ 08330  
Please make checks payable to: Conserve Wildlife Foundation, Inc.



**Attention Groups**

Bicycles and helmets may be loaned to groups. A handout that explains the procedures is available in the Nature Center. Following these procedures will insure a safer and more enjoyable group riding experience. Your cooperation as a group leader is appreciated.

Visitors to the Estell Manor Park may borrow bikes and helmets, volleyballs, softball equipment, soccer balls, horse-shoes, jump ropes, frisbees and tetherballs at the W.E. Fox Nature Center. An adult must be with any child borrowing equipment and must present a valid driver's license. Children 17 and under must wear helmets while riding bicycles as per New Jersey State Law. Note: Individuals with special needs may request the use of a three wheeled bike. We reserve the right to keep this bicycle available for special accommodations only.

**Borrow Bikes and Sports Equipment Free**

