



Gloucester County Nature Club Monthly Newsletter

www.gcnatureclub.org

Nature Club meetings are open to the public.

March 2021

Monthly GCNC meetings are currently suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Please stay tuned, as the situation is continually evolving.

Field Trips

Field Trip and Clean Up at Glassboro Wildlife Management Area

Saturday, March 20, 2021 at 9 -11am

Trip Leaders: Erik and Kris Mollenhauer

As the white blanket of snow lifts off the land we are planning a field trip to look for some signs of spring. Come out for a walk/clean up in Glassboro Wildlife Management Area. We will be walking on flat sand roads, a distance of about a mile. On the way back out we will collect roadside trash, bottles and paper. Plastic bags and plastic gloves will be supplied.

Directions: From Glassboro head south on Rt 47. Turn left onto Carpenter Ave (this is a dirt road). There will be a parking area on the right, about 1/8 mile in. We will meet in the parking lot. Here are the map coordinates (39.678506, -75.095336).

*COVID precautions will be followed, wear a mask, social distance and limit the group to 10 people.

Guided Bird Walks at Scotland Run Park

1st & 3rd Thursdays of every month, 8:00am – 9:30am

Volunteer birders from the Gloucester County Nature Club will be leading twice monthly walks beginning in March. Come help search for the many birds that visit or inhabit Scotland Run Park. These 2021 walks are free and will take place the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month from March 4th through October 21st, 8 am to 9:30 am. Meet at the Nature Center parking lot. Participants are encouraged to bring binoculars. Mask wearing and social distancing will be observed.

MEETUP: In order to reach members with the most up to date field trip information we are asking everyone who is able to sign up for the Gloucester County Nature Club Meetup site. By accessing the site at www.meetup.com/Gloucester-County-Nature-Club/ or using the QR Code to the right, you will be directed to the site. Once you are signed up on the site you will receive up-to-date information on upcoming trips, meetings, events, and fun walks. If you attend field trips you should consider joining Meetup even if you receive the newsletter electronically.



Bird Quest is back!

Hello All,

With these last few days of wonderful hints of the spring weather to come, it's not difficult to imagine that it won't be long before it's time for Bird Quest 2021!

Sadly, Covid19 kept us from holding a 2020 BQ — but we are back this year for BQ 2021!

This won't be the same BQ this year that you have been used to. To keep safe and healthy, the day of BQ — May 1st — will be quite different. There will be no buses, guided walks or gathered lunch after. A virtual get-together after is being planned to give everyone a chance to compare notes and share stories.

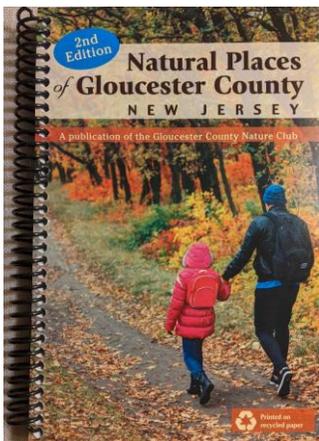
I know this is not exactly as we all would like it to be, but we can make this work, have a great time and carry on a long-time and honored tradition for the Nature Club.

To keep it safe we will require masks, social distancing and a limited number of participants. We have hosted field trips through the fall and winter in this fashion and it has worked well.

More details will be provided soon.

– Karen Kravchuck, Club President

Natural Places of Gloucester County NJ - Second Edition now available!



Our wildly popular **Natural Places of Gloucester County NJ** book is back as a 2nd Edition with a new fresh look, updated information, and new locations. Great for getting out of the house exploring the outdoors while still staying socially distanced and safe. Just what you need to stuff stockings and find places full of natural beauty tucked away in our county.

The Natural Places Guide is one of the many ways the Nature Club provides valuable detailed information, not available elsewhere, about the plants, trees, birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians at over 35 local Natural Places. Each site description includes directions, address and parking information plus a map of the site to make visiting easy and enjoyable. For the Second Edition, information for existing sites has been brought up-to-date. Several new sites have also been added, including: Tall Pines State Preserve, Andoloro WMA, and Tranquility Trails.

Copies of **Natural Places of Gloucester County NJ** are now available for purchase at local retailers including:

- Bob's Little Sport Shop - 316-318 Delsea Drive North, Glassboro, NJ 08028
- Damingers Natural Pet Foods - 641 Main St, Sewell (Mantua Township), NJ 08080
- Triple Oaks Nursery & Herb Garden - 2359 Delsea Drive, Franklinville, NJ 08322
- Wild Birds Unlimited Cherry Hill - 1619 N Kings Hwy, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
- Wild Birds Unlimited Sicklerville - 609-B Berlin Cross Keys Rd Sicklerville, NJ 08081
- Words Matter - 52 S. Broadway, Pitman, NJ 08071

The book is also available through the club's online store. To access the online store, [click here](#).

The Big Year Eco-Challenge

On January 1, a number of Nature Club members and other volunteers began a new project, "The Big Year Eco-Challenge". Over the course of this calendar year, they will survey (as time permits) five local parks and natural areas to identify as many species of plants and animals as they can find: Tall Pines State Preserve, Ceres Park, RiverWinds, Piney Hollow and Elephant Swamp Trail.

A **February Summary** covering the entire month can be found on the [BYEC webpage](#) on the GCNC website.

Club Notes:

- If you'd like to receive the newsletter electronically or receive more info about the club please email Karen Kravchuck at blackbirdsinging@hotmail.com or call 609-617-6693 (cell).
- The Nature Club is always looking for ideas for future programs and field trips. Please contact the program or trip coordinator if you have ideas or would like to help.
- Information for the next newsletter should be sent to Barry Bengel at sharkeyes@comcast.net or GCNC Newsletter, PO Box 563, Sewell, NJ 08080 by the 15th of the preceding month.
- The March Executive Committee meeting will be held online via videoconference on Sunday March 7th. Please contact Karen Kravchuck for more information.

Please remember to help out the Gloucester County Nature Club while shopping online!



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many of us have been shopping online a lot more lately. Don't forget that shopping at Amazon can also benefit the Gloucester County Nature Club at **NO extra cost** to you!

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. You can choose from nearly one million organizations to support.

The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. The purchase price is the amount paid for the item minus any rebates and excluding shipping & handling, gift-wrapping fees, taxes, or service charges. You may even use your existing Amazon.com account for your purchases.

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.