



Gloucester County Nature Club Monthly Newsletter

www.gcnatureclub.org

Nature Club meetings are open to the public

November 2021

The Gloucester County Nature Club Health & Safety Policy for Live Programs

The health and safety of our members and guests are of paramount importance. In order that we may gather together safely, we have instituted the following procedures in strict accordance with the CDC guidelines:

- Attendance is limited to vaccinated individuals only.
- Face masks should be worn by all attendees.
- Seating will be arranged so that attendees will be socially distanced.

We welcome back our many members, friends and guests, and we look forward to many exciting programs and gatherings to come.

Program: We Can't See The Forest For The Trees-To Save Biodiversity, We Must Change Our Views On Forests.

Thursday, November 11, 2021 at 7:00pm at Holy Nativity Lutheran Church, Wenonah, NJ (directions below)

Presenter: Dr. Daniel Duran, Assistant Professor, Rowan U; Naturalist, Scotland Run Park

Program Coordinator: Rich Dilks 856-468-6342

Conservationists and others have led most of us to treasure older forests more than other ecosystems. Open-field habitats and young forests, however, hold significantly more biodiversity than closed-canopy forests. These younger forests are often under-valued and less protected. Dr. Dan Duran will sketch some of the differences in these habitats, give us an overview of the conservation issues, and discuss ways that listeners can get involved in helping to create and maintain early successional forest and "edge" habitats.

Directions: The Holy Nativity Lutheran Church is located just off Rt. 553 (Woodbury Glassboro Rd.) immediately south of the traffic light at Mantua Ave. The church parking lot can be accessed by entrances on either Woodbury-Glassboro Road or Lenape Trail (first left off of Mantua Ave).



Golden-winged Warbler, a young forest habitat specialist

Field Trip: Hike the Black Run Preserve

Sunday November 21 at 3:00 PM at Black Run Preserve, Evesham Township

Trip Leaders: Maria Keefe and Paula Hayes 609-221-5195 (cell)

We will be visiting Evesham's Gem, Black Run Preserve. This preserve was created in 2012 when a group of concerned citizens worked to have Evesham Township permanently preserve these parcels. This green space is almost 1,000 acres and is open for hiking, biking, bird watching and other passive recreation. The hike will be approximately 2-3 miles of easy walking along pristine Pine Barrens wetlands, bogs, and some uplands. We will explore stands of Atlantic White Cedar in the wetlands and see members of the Heath Family of plants (huckleberry, blueberry, mountain laurel, sheep's laurel, etc). The still pristine Black Run Preserve watershed (covering over one thousand acres) is an island of native Pine Barrens plants and animals surrounded by suburbia and only fifteen miles from Philadelphia.

Directions: From 295 north, exit at route 73 and head south 5-6 miles to Braddock Mill Road. Braddock Mill Road is south of The Promenade. You will pass The Promenade and then a Target store, at the next light turn left onto Braddock Mill Rd (it's called Kresson Rd. to the right), there is TD Bank on the corner. Go about ½ mile and make the first right as you pass a pond also on your right. Then make a quick left. You will still be on Braddock Mill Rd. Continue to the stop sign at Kettle Run Road. Turn right and travel 50 feet beyond the stop sign, then turn left at the large white "open space" sign into a parking area.

Field Trip: Gobble Wobble Walk

Friday November 26 (Black Friday) at 10:00 AM at Chestnut Branch Park, Mantua

Trip Leaders: Jayne Rhynard & Marilyn Henry

Since Black Friday is no longer in the store for just one day and the shelves are empty anyway, no need to fight the crowds shopping today! Instead, walk off that stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy and pie on Black Friday, November 26 at 10:00 AM at Chestnut Branch Park in Mantua. This will be a relaxing opportunity to get out and have fun walking - away from the crowds exploring the bounty of living things around us in fall. There might be a turkey that escaped the dinner table, we'll see fall foliage, grasses, winter birds and some of the damage caused by the tornado. Bring your own binoculars, wear your walking shoes and we will enjoy the outdoors together. Meet near the Butterfly Garden.

Nature Notes

Natural Events for the month of November

- Persimmons ripen - they are delicious when fully soft-ripe, astringent when unripe.
- Witch hazel in bloom.
- Woodchucks and chipmunks go into hibernation.
- Bats seek their hibernating sites in caves and abandoned mines.
- American tree sparrow, sometimes called the "winter chippy", is a regular winter bird feeder visitor.



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 November Executive Committee meeting will be held on Sunday November 7th at the home of Karen Kravchuck. Please contact Karen for more information.

NEW YOUTUBE CHANNEL: We have begun posting full recordings of recent club programs for the convenience of members and the public. To find the club's channel, use [this link](#) or search for the club's full name within YouTube. Three videos are now available:



1. [Roger Tory Peterson and the Origins of the Modern Field Guide](#) (April)
2. [Native Plants of South Jersey](#) (May)
3. [Birding in Argentina](#) (September)

As you often hear on YouTube, be sure to subscribe to the club's channel and "like" the videos so they will get recommended to more people! We will continue recording all online programs, and hopefully in-person ones as well, during this club year.

Natural Places of Gloucester County NJ – 2nd Edition makes a great gift!

Our wildly popular ***Natural Places of Gloucester County NJ*** book is back as a 2nd Edition with a new fresh look, updated copy and new locations outdoors for you to get-out-and-go-to while staying distanced and safe. Just what you need to stuff stockings and help 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.

These books are not stuck on a container ship anchored somewhere off the California coast; they are available for immediate purchase via the [GCNC website](#) or at local retailers including:

- Words Matter - 52 S. Broadway, Pitman, NJ 08071
- Daminger's Natural Pet Foods - 641 Main St, Sewell (Mantua Township), NJ 08080
- Wild Birds Unlimited Cherry Hill - 1619 N Kings Hwy, Cherry Hill, NJ 08034
- Triple Oaks Nursery & Herb Garden – 2359 Delsea Drive, Franklinville NJ 08322
- The Yellow Garage Antiques – 66 South Main St, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062
- Dambly's Garden Center – 51 West Factory Rd, Berlin, NJ 08009

Remember to help out the Gloucester County Nature Club



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.

One last Reminder: Membership Dues

This year we have kept the cost the same as last year. Please remember that your dues are the only costs associated with being a club member, we do not charge for any of our programs or field trips. Many organizations charge their members for each walk or activity they attend. We believe that the club is still an excellent value and hope the added cost will not deter any of our members. It is much cheaper for us to send the newsletter electronically to our members and as a result those members who choose to receive the newsletter electronically will receive a discount on their membership. The dues are \$20 for electronic mailings and \$25 for regular mail delivery. Please fill out the **membership form at the end of this newsletter** and send it along with a check payable to "Gloucester County Nature Club" to: GCNC Membership, P.O. Box 563, Sewell, NJ 08080, or bring it to a monthly meeting. Even more convenient is our electronic sign-up, where you may sign up and pay your membership dues electronically via PayPal. Just go to <http://gcnatureclub.org/membership.php> and fill out the online form.

WAIVER

Gloucester County Nature Club and/or its leaders, officers, members or representatives shall not be liable for any injuries, loss or damage to person and/or property, direct or consequential, arising out of any trips and/or activities of the Gloucester County Nature Club. The assumption of risk, which is inherent in this type of outdoor activity, is implied on the part of each person who attends any Gloucester County Nature Club trip, and every person participating in any of said trips and/or activities assumes all risk and liability in connection therewith.

Everyone participating in any activity of the Gloucester County Nature Club will be required to read the release of liability, protecting the Gloucester County Nature Club and/or its leaders, officers, members and representatives from liability.

Gloucester County Nature Club and/or its leaders, officers, members and representatives are not in any way responsible for the personal safety of the attendees. When walking along a road, keep to the left, facing oncoming traffic and walk in a single file. When walking along trails, do not follow too closely or move too fast for your safety and for the safety of others (avoid collisions and/or whipped branches). FOLLOW THE LEADER: If you forge ahead, you may find yourself alone. Responsible adults must accompany children under the age of 16. If you expect to drop out of the group early, please inform the leader. Report to one or more of the hikers if you intend to discontinue on the route.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION 2021-2022

- New Member Renewal
- Paper Membership (\$25) - regular mail
- Electronic Membership (\$20) - newsletter via email; ***please provide email address below

Name: _____

Street: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ ***Email Address: _____

Please note any special knowledge you would be willing to share: _____

Would you be willing to serve on a committee? If so, which committee(s): _____

Are there other ways you could participate? If so, how? _____

Would you like to give a gift membership? If so, indicate Paper ____ or Electronic ____

Name: _____

Street: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Phone: _____

A note will be sent informing them of your gift membership in the GCNC, thank you.

I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE WAIVER

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please mail completed form with payment to GCNC, PO Box 563, Sewell, NJ 08080 or bring to a meeting.