



Gloucester County Nature Club

Monthly Newsletter

www.gcnatureclub.org

Nature Club meetings are open to the public
Summer 2003

Summer 2003 Nature Club Activities

This summer the Gloucester County Nature Club is sponsoring a variety of activities throughout the summer. Keep checking the website: www.gcnatureclub.org or call Deb Maka (856) 863-0330 for updates on the latest fieldtrips and outings.

July 12 - Saturday 8:00 AM Medford Nursery, Inc. Tour

Join Ron Kegel the production manager for Medford Nursery, Inc. and our supplier for the annual plant sale on walk through the nursery grounds. Ron is an excellent birder and obviously knows his plants. He always has some excellent stories to share but the grounds are rich in birdlife and insects so there should be plenty to keep everyone busy.

Directions: Take 295 North to Exit 40A (RT 38 - Mt. Holly). In just under four miles make a slight right onto Creek Road. Drive just over two miles and then make a right onto Main St (541). In ¼ of a mile turn left onto Bella Road. In another ½ mile make a left onto Bridge St. Next, make a right onto Eayrestown Rd in about a mile. The nursery is about ½ a mile down Eayrestown Road. Allow about 45 minutes from Mantua.

Leaders: Ron Kegel

Co Leader: Marge Dolente

July 16 - Wednesday 6:00 PM Canoe and Kayak Paddle

Take the path less traveled. Your perspective changes when you look at it from water level. Join us for a leisurely paddle along a creek in Gloucester County.

We should see Great Blue Herons, Kingfishers, Kingbirds, and possibly Wood Ducks or others. The Club is NOT providing kayaks or canoes so you must have your own craft and be able to get it to the launch site.

Please call Deb Maka for launch site directions (856) 863-0330.

Leaders: Deb Maka

Co Leader: Paula Hayes



July 23 - Wednesday 6:00 PM

Lions and other Little-known Predators of the Milkweed Community

Common Milkweed is the host plant for Monarch Butterflies. But it is also host to a parade of grazers and pollinators, as well as predators and parasites that feed on them.

Join us for a one hour ramble through a wild milkweed patch along Chestnut Branch Creek, as we explore the miniature ecosystem of a milkweed patch. Trip leaves from the Timberline Shopping Center on Woodbury-Glassboro Rd, Mantua (near rt 55).

Leaders: Kris and Erik Mollenhauer

Co Leader: Paula Dearlove

August 3 - Sunday 2:00 PM
Cassel Garden Tour - Sewell

Once again, Bob will personally show the group around his property which is in a constant state of bloom. Bob continues to change and yes, improve this flora and fauna Mecca. Will Bob have everyone hike down to the stream, tour the meadow, or listen quietly? There is only one way to find out – you must attend. If you are not impressed with the varied plants at Bob and Carol’s house you will be entertained by Bob’s fascinating stories. *Directions: Meet at Bob’s house at 407 Heritage Road, Sewell. For directions call Bob at 478-2496.*

Leaders: Bob Cassel

Co Leader: Carol Cassel

August 20 - Wednesday 6:00 PM
A Walk in Wenonah Woods, Wenonah

This trip is back by popular demand. Join Wenonah Environmental Commission members Bob Bevilacqua and Bill Schramm as they walk the trails in Wenonah. They will walk a new trail addition that has connected two separate conservation lands and trails. Printed materials are available on some of the points of interest along the trail. Wenonah trail maps of the whole trail system will be available for \$2. *Directions: From rt 55 take exit 53 and make a right at the top of the ramp (exit 53B if heading South on rt 55 which will put you in the correct direction). Make a left at the second light (Mantua Blvd). At Clinton Ave (Third street on your left) make a left. Go three blocks to meet at Langston field (ball field).*

Leaders: Bob Bevilacqua and Bill Schramm

Co Leader: Karen Kravchuck

September 7 - Sunday 8:00 AM and 11:00 AM
Warblers and Butterflies in Cape May

We will be looking for the mass migration of passerine birds on their way South for the winter. It isn’t unusual to see over twenty species of warbler and many other birds passing through Cape May. We will meet at Higbee Beach for passerines. If anyone is still interested we will be heading over to the point later for Butterflies at the Circle or Hawks at the Park. Bring a lunch or pick one up at the various Wawa’s in the area. You can join us for either one or both of these local phenomena.

Directions to Higbees Beach: Take NJ Parkway South into Cape May. Stay on Laffayette until it ends. Make a right onto Sunset Blvd. and continue to Bayshore Rd (607). Make a right onto Bayshore. Travel over a mile and make a left onto New England Rd (641). Go to the parking lot at the end, if there is no room you may have to travel back out this road to one of the parking lots up the street and walk down to the end. Meet in the Parking lot at 8:00AM.

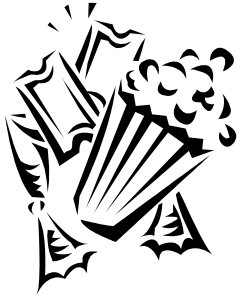
Directions to the Point: Take NJ Parkway South into Cape May. Stay on Laffayette until it ends. Make a right onto Sunset Blvd at Lighthouse Ave (about two miles) make a left. Follow this to the Park on your left. Meet in the Parking lot close to the Hawk Platform at 11:00AM.

Leaders: Brian Hayes

Co Leader: Paula Hayes

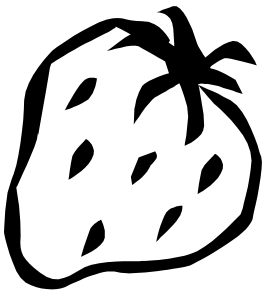


Movie Review-“Winged Migration”



We don't usually put movie reviews in the newsletter, but this is a unique movie. Winged Migration, directed by Jacques Perrin, is probably the closest most of us will come to fulfilling our dreams of flying free like a bird. Perrin uses a variety of aircraft and 17 pilots to record on film geese, turtle doves, albatross, and many other birds in flight. The film is very relaxing with music to match the scenes on screen. This unusual movie will allow you to see the world through the eyes of a bird. The movie is currently playing at the Ritz in Voorhees.

Support Local Farms



We live in the Garden State and yet if you get most of your produce from the super market you are probably not enjoying the wonderful bounty our state grows. Unfortunately, most chain grocers do not carry local fruits and vegetables. I was recently frustrated when in the heart of strawberry season here in New Jersey my local chain grocery store was featuring California strawberries. There wasn't a Jersey strawberry in the store. I do go to farm stands as often as possible. However, it seems wrong that I can't pick up ingredients for a main course and my Jersey produce in one place.

I have spoken to the people who work in the produce department at the store I shop in regularly and they seem unable or unwilling to carry more local produce. So, I am encouraging you to ask your store to carry local and to make that extra effort to shop for locally grown produce. This benefits the environment in a number of ways. The revenue stays local and helps our local farms continue to operate. Many farms in Gloucester County are faced with development threats. It is tough business being a farmer since you are Our farmers are only able to farm if they have a market for their product depending on the weather to help you produce great crops.. Ensure there is a consumer for our local bounty. Buying local produce cuts down on transportation costs and pollution as well.

Additionally, I make a point of buying organic whenever it's available. This rewards farmers for avoiding pesticide use. This is especially beneficial when the farms are in your backyard. I encourage you to think about where the food you are eating comes from and to try to make healthy choices for your family and the environment.

Reminder:

September is the start of our new Club year so we will again be collecting dues for the 2003 – 2004 year. We will be including our new membership renewal form in the September newsletter. You can also pay Karen Kravchuck, our treasurer, at the September meeting. You don't want to miss any of our fall events, so be sure to renew your membership this September.

Looking Ahead:

September 11th- Program on Monarch Butterflies and their Amazing Migration
October 9th- Program on Unexpected Wildlife Refuge

Club Notes:

- If you'd like to be on the list to receive the newsletter electronically or receive more info about the club please email Brian or Paula at pnbhayes@aol.com or call 468-9272.
- 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.
- If you are interested in volunteering for a few hours at one of the community events the club participates in; please give one of our Community Events Coordinators a call- Jackie 848-4852, Bonnie 845-4650, or Elaine 227-0839
- Information for the next newsletter should be sent to Paula Hayes at pnbhayes@aol.com or 413 North Stockton Avenue; Wenonah, NJ 08090 by the 15th of each month.



Gloucester County Nature Club
c/o EIRC
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