



Gloucester County Nature Club

Monthly Newsletter

January 2026

www.gcnatureclub.org

Nature Club meetings are open to the public.

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).

Program: Summertime Blues: Blueberry Farming In NJ

Thursday, January 8th at 7 p.m.

Presenter: Peter Oudemans

Join us in looking forward to warmer weather with Peter Oudemans, Professor of Plant Biology and Pathology at Rutgers University and Director of the PE Marucci Center for Blueberry and Cranberry Research and Extension. You will learn about the fascinating history of this special, native NJ super fruit, how he and others work to reduce diseases impacting it and with growers providing on-farm advice on economically and environmentally sound practices. Significant strides are made through the use of remote sensing for detecting, mapping and understanding the impact of plant disease on these important New Jersey fruit crops.



Tour de Natural Places

Hike: Tuesday, January 13th 9a.m.

Hidden Acres Township Park and Mantua Creek WMA. East Greenwich Twp. Hidden Acres has been re-named Samuel Giordano Sr. Memorial Football Field. Enter at the sign "Football Complex". Follow the one-way signs all the way to the back of the gravel parking lot. Trail could be wet. Wear boots or old sneakers. Hosts: Sue Bergmann, Marilyn Henry. For more information, see Natural Places of Gloucester County, see pages 51-53, Location #13. Next we will drive or carpool a short distance to Mantua Creek WMA, pages 31-32, Location #7. We will be walking in grass which could be tall.



Events By Other Organizations:

Tall Pines First Day Hike: Thursday, January 1st, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.. The Friends of Tall Pines State Preserve will lead a leisurely walk along the trails of Tall Pines to observe the calm beauty of the Preserve in winter and to view the remarkably active bird life at the Preserve this time of year. At the hike's conclusion, seasonal light refreshments will be served. This event is FREE and open to the public but advance registration is requested at [the Eventbrite website](#). The rain/snow date is Sat. Jan. 3rd at 1:00 PM. We'll meet at the entrance kiosk next to the parking lot.

YOUTUBE CHANNEL: We are continuing to post recordings of  YouTube 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. 34 videos are now available, including these recent additions:

- [Bears in New Jersey](#) (November 2025).
- The Evolution of Ceres Park, a Gloucester County Gem (December 2025 -- *video to be released on or before January 4th, 2026*).

The club would like to welcome the following new members who joined recently:

- Bruce and Lucy Hooper of Mickleton
- Maryann Jovanovic of Mantua Twp.