
Press Release

NEWS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Tuesday, June 15, 2010

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COUNTY PARKS OFFER FREE SUMMER PROGRAMS FOR KIDS

“Jr. Park Ranger” and “Young Naturalist” Programs Announced

Kids who want to get outside and enjoy Burlington County’s beautiful parks will have plenty to do this summer thanks to two free programs being offered through the Burlington County Parks System.

The programs include the new Young Naturalist Program for children ages 13-17 and the Jr. Ranger Program for children ages 4-12, which was introduced last year.

Participants in the Young Naturalist Program complete activities in county parks as outlined in their program packets and attend scheduled events led by Park Naturalist Jen Bulava.

The program enables teens with an interest in the environment to develop a greater appreciation of the outside world and to experience all that nature has to offer in the Burlington County Parks System. In addition, students considering a career in the natural sciences gain valuable field experience to begin building a resume.

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Examples of activities and programs include: observing birds and conducting bird surveys, keeping a nature journal, understanding and using dichotomous keys; amphibian and reptile surveys, butterfly observation, tree identification, and ecological adaptations of plants and animals.

The Jr. Ranger Program enables youngsters to have fun outdoors while learning about nature and history in our parks system. Participants can attend ranger and naturalist-led events from June-August covering broad topics from reptiles to tree life cycles to butterflies to aquatic invertebrates, and complete activity pages in their program packets, such as observation charts and puzzles, in the parks on their own time.

The program is geared for two age groups, children ages 4 to 8 who want to become “Park Pals,” and children ages 9 to 12 interested in becoming “Outdoor Adventurers.” Program packets, including event listings for both age levels, can be downloaded on the County Parks website after registering online for the Jr. Ranger Program.

All successful program participants will be recognized with certificates of participation at the end of the summer.

To find out more about the summer programs for youths or to register online, go to www.co.burlington.nj.us/parks. For additional information, call the Burlington County Parks System at (609) 265-5858.

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