

**Burlington County Park System  
Summer 2022 Nature programs**

**Tuesday Talk & Friday Forums**

A series of nature walks led by Naturalist Jen Bulava on select Tuesdays and Fridays. Registration is required.

**Grassland Birds**

**Laurel Run Park**

Early summer is the perfect time to scan the fields for grassland birds at Laurel Run. Bring binoculars and a hat to observe these birds as well as butterflies, dragonflies, and other species found in the fields at this time. **Registration is required.**

**[Register for May 31, 9:00 AM](#)**

**[Register for June 3, 9:00 AM](#)**

**National Pollinator Week Celebration**

**Crystal Lake Park**

In celebration of National Pollinator Week, June 20-26, join Naturalist Jen Bulava for a tour of the new pollinator meadow at Crystal Lake and walk around the field edges to look for butterflies, bees, and hummingbirds and appreciate “the little things that “run the world.” While walking, learn about the current status of pollinators and ways we can help them survive. **Registration is required.**

**[Register for June 21, 9:00 AM](#)**

**[Register for June 24, 9:00 AM](#)**

**Fall migration begins**

**Delaware River Heritage Trail, Florence**

Late August is a great time to observe shorebirds and other species that are beginning their fall migration. We now have a fantastic vantage point to observe wildlife on the Delaware River! Join Jen for an easy walk on the new paved Delaware River Heritage Trail in Florence to observe species that are passing through on their way south. Detailed directions will be provided to registrants. No restrooms available. **Registration is required.**

**[Register for August 23, 9:00 AM](#)**

**[Register for August 26, 9:00 AM](#)**

**Summer Frog Walk Series**

With 32 species of toads, frogs, salamanders, and newts, NJ is a unique amphibian hotspot in the region. Come and learn about your croaking neighbors during the Summer Frog Walk Series with Pinelands Preservation Alliance (PPA) and Burlington County Division of Parks. Dr. Carlos Martínez Rivera, PPA’s Director of Science Conservation, will lead walks into the nearby woods and wetlands. Bring a flashlight with batteries, rubber boots or shoes you don't mind getting dirty and insect repellent. **Registration required.**

**Smithville Park June 7, 7:30 PM [Register here](#)**

**Long Bridge Park June 9, 7:30 PM [Register here](#)**

**Smith’s Woods June 14, 7:30 PM [Register here](#)**

**Long Bridge Park June 16, 7:30 PM [Register here](#)**

### **Wildlife Watch**

Observe and explore the diversity of the animal kingdom in our park system! Find out where certain animals take shelter and what tools they use to do so. Grab your binoculars and cameras to see what we may find! Registration is required.

**June 10 at 10:00 AM, Amico Island [Register online.](#)**

**August 17 at 1:00 PM, Rancocas Pointe Trail [Register online.](#)**

### **Camping with the Rangers**

Join our Park Rangers for an overnight camping experience in the park. Go for a sunset hike with the sights and sounds of the seasonal night life in our park followed by a campfire under the moonlight. Bring your own tent and camping gear. Severe weather will postpone the event, registrants will be notified. Special instructions will be emailed to all registrants. Registration is required, please register all members of your party.

**June 17-18 at 7:00 PM, Crystal Lake Park [Register here](#)**

### **Summer Solstice Sunset Hike**

Join Naturalist Kate on a sunset hike during the longest day of the year! Start off the season with a 2.5 mile walk around Arney's Mount while enjoying beautiful views and the sounds of summer.

**June 21, 7:30 PM, Arney's Mount Park [Register Online.](#)**

### **The Secret World of Plants & Pollinators**

This presentation will focus on the incredible ways in which plants communicate with animals. Flowers are not pretty colors and pleasant smells for us - it's all about the pollinators. Discover amazing strategies of plants, the colors that pollinators see, and ways in which both plants and animals can help or deceive each other. Did you know that a bee's eye view is extremely different from what we see, and from what a bird sees? Participants will find that taking a much closer look at flowers can open up an entire hidden world that is more complex and fascinating than one ever imagined. Presented by Park Naturalist Jen Bulava. Hosted by the Mount Laurel Green Team.

**June 28, 6:00 PM, Mount Laurel Library**

### **Butterflies of Boundary**

Come out to Boundary Creek and join Naturalist Kate to learn about different butterflies that are seen here throughout the summer. Learn identification tips and how to tell moths and butterflies apart.

**June 29, 2:00 PM, Boundary Creek [Register online.](#)**

### **Crepuscular Creatures**

Explore our parks while enjoying the sunset! Join Naturalist Kate Forte on a hike to learn about the crepuscular animals that utilize this time of the evening to hunt and gather food. See for yourself which animals are active and why.

**July 5 at 7:30 PM, Kinkora Trail [Register online.](#)**

## **Healthy Hike**

Did you know that getting out in nature for as little as half an hour a week can help improve your overall mood as well as reduce blood pressure? Come hike along with Naturalist Kate Forte while learning about the varying habitats within the parks.

**July 19 at 9:00 AM, Willingboro Lakes [Register online.](#)**

## **Butterfly Observations**

Take a closer look at butterflies in all parts of their life cycle at the butterfly garden and nearby trails with Naturalist Jen Bulava. Registration required. (Butterfly program for 5-12 year olds – see Jr Ranger at 10:00am).

**July 30 at 11:00 AM, Smith's Woods [Register online](#) (ages 12+)**

## **Moonlit Walk**

Join Naturalist Kate Forte on a moonlit walk through the park. Look and listen for signs of nocturnal animals while also gazing at the stars!

**August 12 at 8:00 PM, Boundary Creek [Register online.](#)**

## **Dragonfly Walks**

Join Naturalist Jen Bulava on a walk to observe and discover the fascinating lives of dragonflies and damselflies - supreme hunters of the animal kingdom! For adults and youth ages 8 and up. Registration required.

**August 18 at 10:00 AM, Arney's Mount Park [Register online](#)**

**August 25 at 10:00 AM, Willingboro Lakes [Register online](#)**

## **Birding Before Breakfast**

Take advantage of the early morning to discover the local birds that live in the parks. Bring a pair of binoculars and join Naturalist Kate on this morning adventure. All levels of birding experience are welcome, so don't be discouraged if you are a beginner!

**August 30 at 7:30 AM, Newton's Landing Trail [Register online](#)**

## **YOUNG NATURALIST PROGRAM**

The Young Naturalist Program (YNP) is a free program for teenagers who reside in Burlington County. This program will allow teens with an interest in the environment to develop a greater appreciation of the outside world and experience all that nature has to offer in the Burlington County Parks System! No homework, no grades, no tests, no pressure, just fun outside! Those looking to potentially pursue a career in the natural sciences can gain valuable field experience and begin building a resume. In-person sessions for teens ages 13-17 are available on Mondays (excluding July 4) from June 27-August 15. **Registration for the first five sessions is open May 24-July 12. Registration for the last two August sessions is open after July 18.**

## **Birding**

We will conduct a bird survey to better understand the population of breeding birds that use the Rancocas Creek corridor. Bring binoculars if you have them.

**Newton's Landing Trail** (meeting at Pennington Park)

**[June 27, 9:30 AM](#)**

## **Shoreline Cleanup**

This is a great opportunity to give back to nature by helping to clean up the shoreline of the Delaware River. Participants will learn about plastic pollution and its far-reaching consequences. Service hours can be earned as well if needed for school.

### **Amico Island**

**[July 11, 9:30 AM](#)**

## **Key to ID**

Explore the trails of Long Bridge Park while using dichotomous keys to correctly identify the flagged species of plants.

### **Long Bridge Park**

**[July 18, 9:30 AM](#)**

## **Forest Assessments**

Learn how to conduct forest measurements and use this data in conjunction with a special online calculator to determine the environmental value of trees (carbon dioxide absorption, storm water interception, air pollution removal, etc.). Participants will also learn how to read tree rings to determine climate and weather conditions in the past.

### **Smith's Woods, Smithville Park**

**[July 25, 9:30 AM](#)**

## **Geology**

We will take a look at the geology of Arney's Mount to understand what makes this place so unique in Burlington County. Wear proper footwear for hiking.

### **Arney's Mount Park**

**[August 1, 9:30 AM](#)**

## **Kayak Paddle**

We will kayak approximately 4 miles down the Rancocas Creek getting a totally different perspective of nature from the water.

### **Rancocas Creek Canoe Trail**

**[August 8, 9:30 AM](#)**

## **Tying it all together**

For the last trip, we will use some of the skills acquired throughout the series to tie everything together for a complete outdoor experience.

### **Boundary Creek**

**[August 15, 9:30 AM](#)**

## **JUNIOR RANGER PROGRAM**

The Junior Ranger Program is a free summer program for children ages 5-12. When you register online for the overall program, you will receive an emailed receipt with a link to download the activity packet for the appropriate age group (ages 5-8 or 9-12). The activities in the program packets can be

completed on your own time throughout the summer within our Burlington County Parks. Students who complete the activity packet can receive a unique Junior Ranger souvenir patch each year they participate! **Registration in the overall program for [Park Pal](#) and [Outdoor Adventurer](#) is open June 13 - August 13.**

There are weekly themed in-person activities in July – August that coincide with the topics in the activity packet. Registration for individual in-person events is separate and listed below. Children must be accompanied by an adult for all programs and parents/guardians should be prepared to stay for the duration of the event. Bug spray, sunscreen, and a hat are recommended. Rain cancels.

### **Insects**

Children will first learn what makes an insect an insect with a quick game. Then we will go on a walk to look for different kinds of insects. For ages 5-8. Registration required.

Amico Island

**[July 6, 10:00 AM](#)**

### **Casting Demo**

Practice casting a fishing pole with our Park Rangers. If you have your own fishing pole, please bring it with you. After the demonstration lesson, those with poles are welcome to fish! Registration required.

Willingboro Lakes

**[July 7, 10:00 AM](#)** for ages 9-12

**[July 9, 10:00 AM](#)** for ages 5-8

**[July 9, 10:00 AM](#)** for ages 9-12

### **Birding**

Learn more about birds by observing them with a Park Naturalist. Binoculars can be borrowed if you do not have your own. For ages 9-12. Registration required.

Boundary Creek

**[July 13, 10:00 AM](#)**

### **Map Adventures**

A fun event for the whole family to learn how to use a map! Everyone will work as a family to complete a quest using a special map. For ages 5-12. Registration required.

Boundary Creek

**[July 14, 10:00 AM](#)**

**[July 16, 10:00 AM](#)** for ages 5-8

**[July 16, 10:00 AM](#)** for ages 9-12

### **Animal Tracks**

Use your tracking skills to hunt for signs of animal life. Discover who has been here and what they might have been doing. Registration required.

### **Long Bridge**

**[July 20, 10:00 AM](#)** for ages 5-8

**[July 23, 10:00 AM](#)** for ages 5-8

**[July 23, 10:00 AM](#)** for ages 9-12

### **Tree-mendous Leaves**

Participants will be given leaf cards and will go on a search to find the leaf that matches the identity of that tree! Played in a relay-race style format with teams. Afterwards participants will create leaf rubbings to remember the leaves they learned. For ages 9-12. Registration required.

Smith's Woods

[July 21, 10:00 AM](#)

### **Butterflies**

Take a closer look at butterflies while exploring habitats along the park trails. Registration required.

Smith's Woods

[July 27, 10:00 AM for ages 9-12](#)

[July 30, 10:00 AM For ages 9-12](#)

### **Butterflies**

Take a closer look at butterflies in all parts of their life cycle at the butterfly garden. For ages 5-8. Registration required.

Smith's Woods

[July 28, 10:00 AM](#)

[July 30, 10:00 AM](#)

### **Intro to Weather and Clouds**

Clouds are very useful for giving us clues about the weather. Which ones mean good or bad weather is coming? This program includes a craft activity making a "Weather Window" and looking at types of clouds. Craft supplies will be provided.

Pennington Park

[August 3, 10:00 AM for ages 5-8](#)

[August 6, 10:00 AM for ages 5-8](#)

[August 6, 10:00 AM for ages 9-12](#)

### **Food chains**

Participants will learn the importance and sensitivity of plants and animals in the web of life by playing the "food chain game" and becoming a link in the chain.

Pennington Park

[August 4, 10:00 AM for ages 9-12](#)

### **Scavenger Hunt**

Join us to look for real natural objects hidden amongst the trails! Participants will be given a list of things to find and are asked to take a photo of each one they locate.

Long Bridge Park

[August 10, 10:00 AM for ages 9-12](#)

[August 13, 10:00 AM for ages 5-8](#)

[August 13, 10:00 AM for ages 9-12](#)

### **Etch and Sketch**

Walk around the park with a Park Ranger and create a nature journal of what you see! We will provide paper, pencils, and crayons for sketching your favorite objects in the park. We will conclude with etched rubbing plates to complete your journal pages.

Long Bridge Park

[August 11, 10:00 AM for ages 5-8](#)