



**Baltimore Woods
Nature Center**
Nature in your hands



the Overlook

MAY - AUGUST 2018 • VOLUME 32 • NUMBER 2

Nurturing in Nature

“Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where nature may heal and give strength to body and soul.”

~ John Muir

Upcoming Events

Mother’s Day Garden Tour at Sycamore Hill Gardens

Sunday, May 13th
11am-4pm

Third Annual 5K Trail Run at Baltimore Woods

August 19th
5K race 9am
1K kids fun run 8:30am

Visit www.baltimorewoods.org
for details and ticketing
information.



4007 Bishop Hill Road
P.O. Box 133
Marcellus, NY 13108 (315) 673-1350
www.baltimorewoods.org

Immersing the Senses in Nature

by Becky Wilson, Education Manager

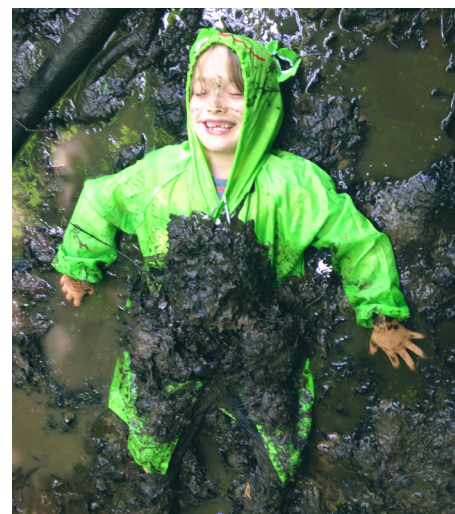
Spring has kept us waiting for what seemed like an eternity at times, but at last it is finally here. The sights, smells, sounds, tastes and textures of our natural world are amazing if we take the time to fully experience them.

Spending time with children makes you more aware of how sensitive our senses are when it comes to nature. My older son Sage, now three, is becoming much more in tune with the changing seasons. Here are just a few special moments I’ve experienced this spring through his fresh eyes.

At the end of the final leg of winter, we had been on “Green Watch” for weeks when Sage spotted the first green thing poking from the snow. He saw it from the car as we pulled into our driveway. Hardly containing his excitement, he raced from his seat to see the “bestest green grass I ever have seen.” How can you not be inspired by that enthusiasm for grass? I sure looked at it with a new appreciation.

One evening as we stopped by the sliding glass doors to watch the Sun “go to bed,” I heard a familiar sound. I opened the door and both boys were right at my heels. When experiencing it with the boys, this was the most magical thing I had ever seen: about a hundred Canada Geese flying overhead, honking away, most in their typical V formation. We yelled “Welcome Home!” and I admit I had tears in my eyes.

My boys have what I call “madar” or mud radar. If there is mud, they will find it and promptly become covered in it. I asked Sage once why he liked to get



covered in mud and he said, “because it feels good.” Curious, I asked, “Does mud itself feel good or do you feel good when you’re covered in mud?” His response? “Yes.”

There is nothing like the fresh perspective of a child to make you appreciate the little things. I am excited to continue exploring nature with my boys and savoring every moment. Baltimore Woods is the perfect place to bring these curious young minds; a place where they can immerse themselves in all the wonders of nature. The Woods is filled with “the little things.”

Help Us with Our Strategic Plan!

We are conducting a survey about what people like to see and do at Baltimore Woods. Your views are important! Take a five minute survey online by copying and pasting this address in your browser: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/J33KY8H>



Baltimore Woods Nature Center is a premier educational organization that transforms individuals and communities by cultivating a personal connection to the natural world.



Strategic Planning: Looking Back, Moving Forward

By Whitney Lash-Marshall, Executive Director

How did you first connect with Baltimore Woods? For me, it was through the young son of a good friend inviting me to go snowshoeing with their family on a day with crystal blue skies. Several months later my husband and I returned with them for the annual Earth Day celebration where we explored the Valley Trail on a guided hike and found amphibian eggs along the edge of the stream. I smile even now thinking back on those days – each a perfect combination of exploration, exercise, and a restorative break from everyday life.

We are hoping you will share your stories of how you first connected with us and your ideas for our future as part of our strategic planning process. We invite you to take our ongoing survey, and we

will be hosting interviews with various members and user groups these next few months. In June, a workshop will be conducted by an outside consulting team, providing more opportunities for you to share your stories of how you continue to be involved with our organization and offer suggestions for how we can improve and grow. Watch your email for upcoming details – I look forward to seeing what comes from our collective efforts as we continue to develop as an organization and expand the impact of our mission.

Health Benefits of Stewardship

by Fran Lawlor, Land Manager

As we wrote *The Overlook* this time around, the staff was asked to consider the health benefits of being in nature and the desire to steward nature. I decided to put this introspective task on the weekly A-team agenda. Over coffee, I asked our volunteers to weigh in on the topic. The brainstorming initially brought out the humor: *Poison ivy! Ticks! Deer flies! Going to the doctor!* but then more thoughtful answers came along: *Exercise. Peace and quiet. Getting to know a place better. There are always surprises: screech owls, foxes, animal tracks, where the beaver went. Sitting home is too boring...*

Soon enough, they began to pose more questions to each-other: “*Sure*”, one volunteer challenged, “*you can just hike here and do that, but why volunteer?*”

The answers came in a flurry and with smiles all around:

Camaraderie. It fills an evolutionary need, a tribal, pre-human urge to come together and groom. It's reverse agriculture, restoring the land satisfies our need to grow things. I hate invasive species and want to take action. We learn from each other. We do it for our grandchildren. We have great stories to bring home. It's meaningful work for a bunch of retired folks. It's a great benefit for the community. There's a sense of accomplishment.

Although the A-team is focused on projects at The Woods that require and promote physical well-being, it's clear that emotional and intellectual health benefits also come from volunteering at a nature center! Sounds healthy to me!



This Season at Baltimore Woods...

By Thomas Meier, Camp Director

As someone who dabbles in watercolor painting, I am mesmerized and delighted by the movement of pigments across the wet paper. A light touch of the brush starts color flowing out in all directions, deep and rich at the origin and gradually fading to the palest hint of what it once was.

It is also a joy to mix the colors, trying to mimic just the right red-orange of a monarch butterfly or the soft green of a luna moth. Truthfully, painters have it easy. Just mix a little of this with a smidge of that, and with a little practice -- and a lot of trial and error -- it can become second nature.

The moths and butterflies on the other hand... Their method for creating colors is simply astounding, and very few pigments are involved. Their wings are covered with tiny single-celled scales



On your next hike at The Woods, be sure to check out our meadows for tiger and giant swallowtails, monarchs, fritillaries, and even hummingbird moths.

that, through subtle structural changes on the scales' surface, can actually manipulate light to appear as different colors. This is nano-level stuff, but it creates all the greens, blues, reds, yellows, oranges, and purples that inspire an amateur artist, like me, to try to capture a little piece of summer from butterfly wings.

Baltimore Woods Native Plant Sale



Birds, Bees, and Blooms!
Shop for native plants to attract & provide habitat for birds, bees, & butterflies!

Friday, June 1, 2-7pm
Saturday, June 2, 9am-3pm
Sunday, June 3, 10am-2pm

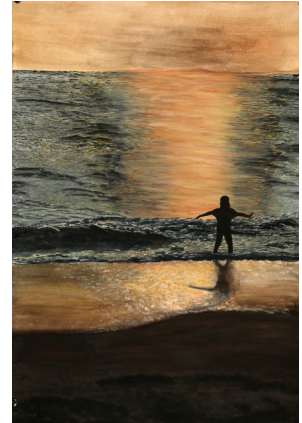
Native plants, perennials, flowers, trees, shrubs, vegetables, & herbs hanging baskets • master gardeners on hand • raffle • bake sale garden café • free parking • rain or shine • Sunday - plant sale only

Members receive a 10% discount on plant purchases!

Currently in the Gallery *Student Art Exhibit*

May 5 - May 25
Reception: May 5, 3-4pm

Celebrating nature and the artistic achievements of local school students



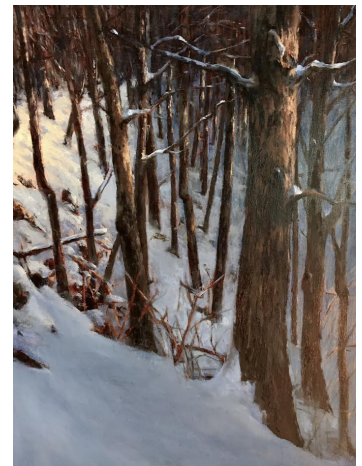
"Playing in the Waves"
Samantha DiMarco
Marcellus High School

Upcoming in the Gallery

Woods

Oil Paintings by
Robert Niedzwiecki

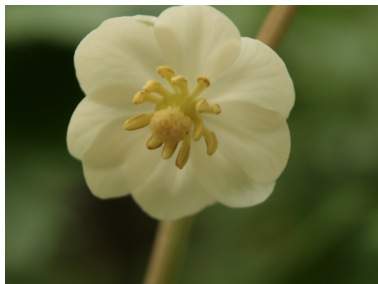
September 7 - October 26
Reception: September 8, 2 - 4pm



May

3 The Bird Banding Project at Baltimore Woods 10-11am

Alison Kocek, one of our Onondaga Audubon bird banders, will share the results of last year's banding efforts, this year's plans, and insights into how bird banding efforts help scientists and land managers help the birds. This program will include an indoor presentation and an easy walk outside. Adult program. \$6 members; \$9 public.



5, 6 Weekend Wildflower Walk 2-3pm

Baltimore Woods Nature Center's premier woodland wildflower garden is a local treasure. Join caretaker Audrey Loewer for a pleasant walk through one of the wonders of spring. Each week, new species will bloom and Audrey will reveal their past and present medicinal and culinary uses. For ages 15 and up. Call for accessibility information. Donations appreciated.

9 - June 13 Nature's Little Explorers: Warm Spring Series 10-11am Six-week program!

Late Spring is a great time of year to explore; the woods are always changing and we'll try to see it all! Through crafts, games, exploration, and imaginative play, each week will bring a different adventure. Theme weeks include: Bird Nests, Good Smells, Snails and Slugs, Turtles and Snakes, Nature Babies, and How Many Legs? For ages 3-5. \$35 members; \$50 public.

11 Star Party: Big Bright Jupiter 8-10pm

Spring skies will be in full view, plus Jupiter is at opposition, meaning it will be at its closest, biggest, and brightest for the entire year. Venus will also be visible at the start of the program. Back-up

date May 12th. Program for all ages. \$6 members; \$9 public.

17 Wildflowers in May 10-11am

Every spring Baltimore Woods turns into a wonderland of spring wildflowers. Join us on a peaceful stroll through the Faust Garden and Harrison Trail to admire these fleeting beauties and ponder the ephemeral nature of spring and ourselves. This will be an easy walk along flat trails. Please call for accessibility information. Adult program. \$6 members; \$9 public.

18 Homeschool Adventures: Fire and S.T.E.A.M. 9am-noon *New time!*

Fire has fascinated and supported humans for thousands of years. We'll use S.T.E.A.M. to explore fire and heat, learn how to build a fire, and practice starting fires using nothing but our wits, modern tools, and some technological wonders of ancient humans. Students must be accompanied by an adult and should bring a snack. For ages 5-17. \$10 members; \$15 public.

19 Teddy Bear Picnic 11am-12pm

Today is the day! Grab your teddy bears, pack a lunch and join us for an adventure through the woods as we make our way to the pond because today is the day the teddy bears have their picnic! For all ages. \$6 members; \$9 public.

26 Treefrogs and Peepers! 8-10pm

Treefrogs and spring peepers are perhaps the most elusive frogs ever. However, evenings in late May can be the perfect times to observe them at Philips Pond - especially if there's a little rain. Join us for a night hike to the pond to enjoy the treefrog-peeper chorus and try to spot a few of these fascinating frogs. Bring

a flashlight, this night hike includes one steep trail. For ages 5 and up. \$6 members; \$9 public.

31 Wild Edibles Walk 10am-12pm

Join us as we ramble around Baltimore Woods searching for wild edible plants. Learn how to identify and harvest food from the wild; we will emphasize ways to do it safely and ethically. Adult program. \$6 members; \$9 public.

June

2 Container Gardening Workshop 10-11am

Enjoy the wonders of fresh food from the garden without the need for a lot of space or weeding. Practically anything grown in a traditional garden can be raised in containers, with less work. You'll mix soil, use plants from our native sale, and take home your very own "Salad Bowl" garden! Bring 15" pot, gardening gloves, and trowel. For ages 7 and up. \$20 members; \$30 nonmembers.

14 The Moon and Planets 10-11am

Our solar system is a big and confusing place - so let's put things in perspective! We'll figure out the phases of the moon, learn just how far away Neptune really is, see Earth as a peppercorn, find the rabbit on the moon, and gain a better understanding of where we fit in all of this. Adult program. \$6 members; \$9 public.



15 Homeschool Adventures: The Moon and Planets 9am-12pm *New time!*

Our solar system is a big and confusing place - so let's put things in perspective! Using S.T.E.A.M., we'll figure out the phases of the moon, learn just how far away Neptune really is, see Earth as a peppercorn, find the rabbit on the moon, and gain a better understanding of where we fit in all of this. For ages 5-17. \$10 members; \$15 public.

16 Let's Get Hiking!**1-3pm** *Perfect for teens!*

Whether you are going out for a few hours, a day, or a long weekend, the most important part of any hike is to plan ahead and prepare. Experienced outdoor guide Tom Meier will help get you off on the right foot with gear and packing tips, navigation, food ideas, and some basic emergency preparedness skills (just in case). For ages 13 and up. \$6 members; \$9 public.

22 Star Party: Bright Planets and the Moon**9-11pm**

It gets dark late this time of year, so our best viewing targets will be bright planets and the moon. Venus, Jupiter, and Saturn will be visible. When it gets dark we will begin to see some of the southern Milky Way. Back-up date June 23rd. For all ages. \$6 members; \$9 public.

23 Summer Solstice Yoga and Meditation Walk**9:30-11am**

Revel in the beauty of nature and life. Revitalize your body as we travel through the yoga Surya Namaskar Sun Salutation series and experience restorative poses that root you in the nurturing and supporting earth. Afterward, we'll take a meditative walk using the peaceful tools of nature to relax the mind. All levels of yoga experience! Adult program. \$6 members; \$9 public.

**Learn the Art of Fire By Friction**

Friction Fire Workshop with Jeff Devine

July 21, 10:30am-3:30pm



Make fire by rubbing sticks together! Learn the secrets of making fire by friction. You've read about it, seen in movies and on TV, and now you, too, can learn how to master this essential skill of our ancestors. Give us half a day and you will make and take home your very own bow-drill friction fire kit and all the knowledge to master this

skill. We will cover: the art of fire by friction, identifying the materials needed in the wild, basic carving skills, tinder, kindling and wood selection, and building an awesome campfire. Program for ages 14 and up. \$50 for members; \$65 for public.

July**20 Star Party: Planets!****8-11pm**

Come see Venus, Jupiter, Mars (which will be at its biggest, brightest, and closest until 2035!), Saturn, and possibly a quick glimpse of Mercury at the start of the program. Plus, we will get a good view of the first quarter moon, and then the southern Milky Way as the moon sets and the sky gets dark. Back-up date July 21st. For all ages. \$6 members; \$9 public.

28 Stories Under Stars**7:30-9pm**

Join us at The Woods on an enjoyable evening walk to Phillips Cabin for storytelling and sticky marshmallow treats around the campfire with Environmental Educator Patrick Burke and storyteller Ken Kaufman. For ages 7 and up. \$6 members; \$9 public.

August**12 Star Party: Perseid Meteor Shower****8:30-11pm**

It's time for the annual Perseid meteor shower, one of the year's finest; plus see the planets Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune! There is no moon in the sky so we will have fabulous views

of the summer skies and southern Milky Way. Bring a lawn chair and watch for meteors. Back-up date August 13th. For all ages. \$6 members; \$9 public.

18 Butterfly Tea Party**10-11:30am**

It's tea time at Baltimore Woods! We will join our butterfly friends in search of the most delicious nectars of the garden, immersing our senses as we search for the perfect blend of herbs. While our teas are brewing, grab a net and catch a butterfly! Our fluttery friends may join us for the party as we sample our tea and eat tasty treats. For 3 and up. \$6 members; \$9 public.

25 Ecological Detectives**1-3pm**

Baltimore Woods is full of life this time of year: plants, animals, fungi, and more! Bring the family to search for clues of creatures that might be hiding in plain sight and explore how different parts of the forest ecosystem are connected. For all ages. \$6 for members; \$9 for public.

Register online for programs at
www.baltimorewoods.org

Traditional Nature Day Camp

Let the Adventures Begin!



Inside Thoughts...

by Patrick Burke,
Environmental Educator

It's the first day! I rise a half hour before my 4:30am alarm. I stop at my desk, pick up my bag, sunscreen, bug repellent. Check. Rain jacket, extra socks and t-shirt. Check. Lip balm, eye drops, pocket knife, extra-large cloth band aids. Check. Small tarp, multiple gallon zip lock bags, rubber bands, and a roll of toilet paper. Check. Several boxes of Cliff Bars that will be the sole source of sustenance for the next eight weeks. Check.

Too nervous to eat, I arrive at The Woods early. There are tables and chairs to be moved, signs to be posted. I head to the assignment board first. Will it be Peanut Hill and forts or aquatic invertebrates at Phillips Pond?

Before I know it, I hear car doors opening. The dust rises in the parking lot. The campers find their way under the pavilion. High fives. Fist bumps. Stories are exchanged. The next thing I know, it's "GOOD MORNING TOM!" and another amazing summer camp at Baltimore Woods is underway. Can't wait to see you there!

Traditional Camp

A Baltimore Woods favorite for over 30 years!
Weekly July 9- August 31, 10am-3pm

Eight weekly sessions promoting discovery, physical fitness, problem-solving skills, social interaction, and awareness through direct contact with the natural world. Campers in grades K-8 build forts, explore the wonders of the pond, catch frogs, build a campfire, roast hot dogs, get up close and personal with the swamp, play classic Baltimore Woods camp games, make new friends, learn about the trees and birds, and get connected to the natural world in real and meaningful ways.

Full-day: \$187/child/week
Multiple week and multiple child discounts available.

Before and after care available.

A Baltimore Woods family membership is required to attend camp.

Camp led by certified teachers and experienced educators who are also certified in first aid and CPR.



Become a Teen Volunteer!

Our Teen Volunteer program is the best way for older campers to continue their connection with Baltimore Woods. We are looking for experienced campers who want to share their knowledge and help make sure younger campers get the same great camp opportunities that they had growing up. Teen volunteers - or TVs - are partnered with our counselors to assist them with camp activities, presenting the chance to develop leadership skills and responsibility while continuing to enjoy spending time outdoors at The Woods.

TVs are required to have been a camper at Baltimore Woods, be 14 years old by July 1st, and to attend a training day in late June. Teen Volunteer opportunities are on a weekly basis throughout the summer, amounting to 25 community service hours each week. Visit our website www.baltimorewoods.org/camp to download the application today!

Preschool and Voyager Theme Camps

Register online at www.baltimorewoods.org

Nature's Little Explorers

Specially designed for the youngest nature nuts!
Half-day programs for ages 4 and 5 led by caring counselors.
Monday-Friday 10am-12pm \$77/child/week

Session 1: July 9-13
Just Add Water!

Session 4: July 30 – August 3
Nature's Little Artists

Session 2: July 16-20
Frogs, Toads, & Salamanders

Session 5: August 6-10
Birds and Butterflies

Session 3: July 23-27
Insect Safari

Session 6: August 13-17
Fairyland

Session 7: August 20-24
Songs of the Wilderness



Voyager Camp

For experienced campers in 5th to 8th grade looking to try something new or delve deeper into natural history and science concepts.
Monday-Friday, 10am-3pm \$187/child/week

Session 1: July 9-13
Herp it Up!

Session 4: July 30 – August 3
Raiders of the Lost Woods

Session 2: July 16-20
Mammals!

Session 5: August 6-10
Wilderness Survival

Session 3: July 23-27
Wilderness Survival

Session 6: August 13-17
The Art of Nature

Session 7: August 20-24
Nature Documentary Film Camp



Nature in the City News!

By Whitney Lash-Marshall, Executive Director

Nature in the City was developed with two goals: to work with teachers to enhance their science curriculum in the classroom through hands-on/minds-on, natural science lessons and activities, and to bring children outside to connect to nature in their own neighborhood and community. This combination is a powerful one, and our team is continually reminded that our time with students impacts them far beyond three, one-hour lessons each school year. I have met students in high school and even freshmen in college who are thrilled to share their memories of *Nature in the City* lessons learned years ago. Not only do we strive to generate interest in STEM fields and careers but also to inspire the next generation of environmental stewards right here in Syracuse.

In April our education team started teaching our third-grade lessons, highlighting the Onondaga Lake watershed and culminating with a field trip to Elmwood Park in the City of Syracuse thanks to a partnership with Onondaga County Save the Rain. This field trip is one of the most memorable moments of the *Nature in the City* lessons from K-6 grade. Why is this experience so memorable? Brenna Galligan, an intern with us in 2017 and now one of our environmental educators, shared that

“The field trip was my favorite lesson.... because it was more than a lesson – it was the physical act of connecting 3rd grade Syracuse City School students to urban green spaces. No longer were they confined by white walls and desks, the park became their classroom and they became the scientists. They waded through the stream with nets in their hands and grins on their faces... The confidence they embodied during those field trips was inspirational to say the least...” Years later, students can still tell us which aquatic macroinvertebrates they caught.

As the 16th year of *Nature in the City* comes to an end this June, we thank all of our sponsors and partners who made another exciting year of programming possible for over 10,000 students in grades K-6 across the Syracuse City School District. We look forward to more exciting adventures next school year!



2017-2018 Sponsors

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 Lockheed Martin Employee Federated Fund
 National Grid
 O'Brien and Gere
 Onondaga County Save the Rain
 Price Chopper's Golub Foundation
 SRC, Inc.
 Syracuse City School District
 Anonymous donors and friends

Official Media Partner



Connect the Drops Challenge

As part of their *Nature in the City* lessons this year, third-grade classrooms will be demonstrating how they can have an impact on the Onondaga Lake Watershed by participating in a #ConnectTheDrops Challenge. Inspired by Onondaga County Save the Rain, students at each school will be challenged to pick a day to clean up the trash around their school, helping to keep litter out of our waterways. Did you know that over 98% of the trash that makes its way to

Onondaga Lake started as street-borne litter?

Can you take the #ConnectTheDrops Challenge at your own workplace or neighborhood? If you're up for the challenge, post a photo to social media of your completed clean-up and tag Baltimore Woods Nature Center, Onondaga County Save the Rain, and #ConnectTheDrops. Learn more about Connect The Drops at <http://www.savetherain.us/drops/>.

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

May

Wildflower Walk
2-3pm

Mother's Day Garden Tour
11am-4pm

20

27

June

Annual Native Plant Sale
10am-2pm

10

17

24

7



28

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25

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22

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12

19

26

2

Nature's Little Explorers
10-11am

Nature's Little Explorers
10-11am

Volunteer Lunch
12:30pm

Nature's Little Explorers
10-11am

Nature's Little Explorers
10-11am

Nature's Little Explorers
10-11am

Nature's Little Explorers
10-11am

Volunteer Lunch
12:30pm

27

The Bird Banding Project
10-11am

10

Wildflowers in May
10-11am

24

Wild Edibles Walk
10am-12pm

7

The Moon and Planets
10-11am

Today is the summer solstice!



4

Star Party: Big Bright Jupiter
8-10pm

Homeschool Adventures: Fire and S.T.E.A.M.
9am-12pm

25

Annual Native Plant Sale
2-7pm

8

Homeschool Adventures: The Moon and Planets
9am-12pm

Star Party: Bright Planets and the Moon
9-11pm

29

Habitat Gardening
8:30am-12:30pm
Wildflower Walk
2-3pm
Art Reception
3-4pm

12

Teddy Bear Picnic
11am-12pm

Treefrogs and Peepers!
8-10pm

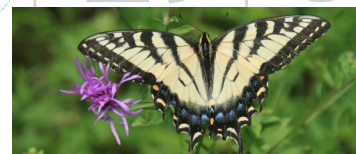
Annual Native Plant Sale
9am-3pm

9

Let's Get Hiking!
1-3pm

Summer Solstice Yoga and Meditation Walk
9:30-11am

30



Spring peeper eggs take approximately 12 days to hatch.

Watch our website for bird banding demonstrations in June!

Peak season to catch fireflies!

An old yogi tradition, Sun Salutation is practiced 108 times on the summer solstice!

Don't forget to pre-register for programs online at www.baltimorewoods.org/programs.



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

July

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2

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5

6

The roots of Indian Pipe tap into the mycelia of fungi to obtain nutrients.



Summer Camp starts today!

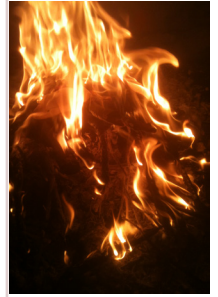
9

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16

17

Volunteer Lunch 12:30pm

19

Star Party: Planets! 8-11pm

Friction Fire Workshop 10:30am-3:30pm

22

23

24

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26



Buck Moon

Stories under Stars 7:30-9pm

Blackberry Season is here!



29

30

31

August

The polyphemus moth has an average wingspan of 15cm!

5

6

7

8



9

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Star Party: Perseid Meteor Shower 8:30-11pm

13

14

Volunteer Lunch 12:30pm

16

17

Butterfly Tea Party 10-11:30am

Annual 5K Trail Race 9am



22

23

24

Ecological Detectives 1-3pm

Look out for the edible fungi chicken of the woods.



Sturgeon Moon

29

30

Last Day of Summer Camp!

31



Don't forget to pre-register for programs online at www.baltimorewoods.org/programs.

Volunteer Spotlight: Audrey Loewer

by Sue Jones, Office Manager

Volunteer naturalist and life member Audrey Loewer first became involved with Baltimore Woods in 1986. As a devoted Sunday School teacher, she needed a backdrop to film a scene for a movie she was making for her class, and our gravel bed was a perfect spot. She noticed the trail sign near the gravel bed, followed it to the woodland trails, and the rest is history.



A retired elementary school teacher and mother of four boys, Audrey always liked science. She took the volunteer naturalist course in 1987. In lieu of tuition, participants could promise 25 hours of volunteer time. Since she was a gardener, she offered to help with the care of the Faust Wildflower Garden. Her initial promise was quickly fulfilled, and she became the official caretaker of the garden, averaging five to ten hours of work per week during the growing season. Audrey once met Mildred Faust on the trails and remembers hearing her share a story from her childhood of collecting and eating gooseberries.

To share her knowledge of the different plant species in the gardens, she labels over 200 species of trees, ferns, and wildflowers in the woodland and meadow gardens every year. Her great delight is seeing a plant thrive from year to year, but she also loves how the garden changes over time, noting that "Mother Nature is full of surprises."

Years ago, Audrey offered to lead the annual wildflower walks in the spring. By request of many folks who enjoyed this program, she wrote a book, *Faust Garden Friends through History*, a treasure trove of information on the 170+ plants in the garden. (Copies of the book are available in our Gift Shop.) Thirty years later, Audrey is still the garden caretaker and is training Linda and Steve Garner and

Rose Burdick to help continue this wonderful feature of Baltimore Woods.

A quiet observer, in her daily visits to the pond, she has watched baby beavers, waterfowl, and herons grow up, and fondly remembers quietly watching a nursing fawn.

Audrey explains that the flora and fauna and the people connected with Baltimore Woods is what has kept her volunteering here for so long. When not at The Woods, she enjoys gardening at her home and reading. A happy memory is her five trips to visit countries in South America and Europe, traveling on cargo-liners rather than cruise ships, and transiting the Panama Canal.

In addition to her garden duties, Audrey prepares the educational exhibits at the lower kiosk and helps the membership committee in a significant way by placing membership forms on visitor cars.

Over the years, this effort has yielded a substantial number of new or renewing members. For all you do for The Woods, we thank you Audrey!

Welcome Life Members!

Cathy and Mike Neuner
Anonymous Member

The dues collected from life memberships are added to the Baltimore Woods Endowment Fund, helping to support our operations in perpetuity. These two new gifts bring our total life members to 68.

Join Baltimore Woods

Share your love of nature

GIFT MEMBERSHIPS

available at

Baltimore Woods Nature Center

*Call (315) 673-1350
to sign your friends up.*

Baltimore Woods Nature Center members enjoy ...

- program, rental, and gift shop discounts
- discounts at 150 other nature centers
- free snowshoe use on site
- summer and school break camps
- knowing they are helping preserve our valuable and beautiful environment now and in the future

Join online at baltimorewoods.org, call (315) 673-1350, or mail the form below.

Annual Membership Level

_____ \$20 Senior/Student

_____ \$30 Individual

_____ \$40 Family

_____ \$100-\$200 Patron

_____ \$1000 Life

_____ Donation Amount
(in addition to membership)

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Yes, I want to receive *The Overlook* newsletter by email to save paper and reduce mailing costs.

**Make checks payable to:
Baltimore Woods Nature Center**

**Return this coupon with payment to:
Baltimore Woods Nature Center
P.O. Box 133
Marcellus, NY 13108-0133**





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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Interpretive Center & Art Gallery
Hours: Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm

Saturday, 10am-4pm

Closed Sundays

Closed July 4 and
September 1 and 3

Hiking trails are open dawn to dusk

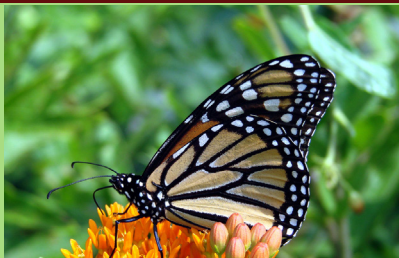
No pets please

No admission or parking fees

Find us on the web at
www.baltimorewoods.org
or on social media



NATURE TIP



Native plants help sustain our local ecosystems, providing resources for butterflies, birds, pollinators, and beneficial insects. Most native plants are easy to grow and cold hardy, like this butterfly weed *Asclepias tuberosa*. From the milkweed family, this herbaceous wildflower contains nutrition for developing monarch caterpillars and is an important nectar source for adult butterflies. The beautiful orange flowers will surely bring vibrant color to any garden!

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE THIRD ANNUAL

Baltimore Woods 5K Trail Run *Sunday, August 19 at 9am*

- Challenging 5K trail run
- Run over hills and through valleys, along streams, ponds, and meadows
- Timed by Leone Timing
- Family-fun summer event
- Free 1K kids fun run (10 and under)
- Prizes to top runners and kids
- Walkers welcome
- \$25 advance/\$35 on race day
- Free shirt to first
- Proceeds to benefit Baltimore Woods



Sign up today on our website at www.baltimorewoods.org

