




# the Overlook

SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER 2019 • VOLUME 33 • NUMBER 3

## Wonder-full Science



Science begins and ends with a sense of wonder. A child finds a caterpillar and wonders what it is, where it came from, what it eats, what eats it, will it be a moth or a butterfly, what colors will it show? She questions, observes, and discovers. Then she wonders that so much life can exist in something so small. And that is just the beginning...

## You're Invited!

### Baltimore Woods Community Appreciation Dinner

December 3, 2019  
6-9pm

Baltimore Woods Nature Center invites our community members to a delicious holiday meal at The Woods as our way of saying thanks to the community and the volunteers who have given so much to us. Pre-registration is required. RSVP by November 29<sup>th</sup> by calling (315) 673-1350.



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

## Learning Science Through Play

by Whitney Lash-Marshall, Executive Director

Science! That word may take you back to your classroom days, but our exploration of science concepts actually goes back even further to when we might not have even realized we were being scientists. As children, experimenting isn't a formal process with lab coats and safety glasses but instead is the way we experience the world around us and explore how things work. Do you remember that first time you tossed a rock into a puddle of water and watched the ripples move outward? Or maybe you built a pile of rocks across a stream and watched how the flow changed. Even the questions we asked about how birds fly and why leaves may be changing from green to orange were the beginning of our understanding of the science of the natural world and also the foundation of our connections to it.

Scientific learning through play and exploration is an underlying philosophy of all our programs here at Baltimore Woods, helping to encourage each of us to learn more about what intrigues and inspires us. Our campers just spent the summer experiencing this through observing dragonflies by the pond and building forts at Peanut Hill. In just a few weeks students across the Syracuse City School District will kick-off a year of *Nature in the City* lessons where our educators bring examples of local flora and fauna right into the classroom, and hundreds of students will be heading out to The Woods for a field trip to not only learn about the natural world, but experience it firsthand.

These moments help us not only understand but connect to nature in ways that can last a lifetime. Your own early outdoor experiences are what helped instill that desire to take a hike when you have



some spare time, capture natural beauty through photography, create art, engage in citizen science, and help steward our environment. Perhaps these hands-on and "home-made" experiments are more influential than we know – our staff and volunteers can share their own early memories that helped guide them to be at Baltimore Woods!

We also want to continue growing these opportunities for our community for generations to come – and one way we can expand the experiences we offer you and your family is by growing the physical preserve. We are working with our partners at the Central New York Land Trust to expand Baltimore Woods by almost 50% so we can grow our trail system and the types of environmental education programs we can offer to people of all ages. Keep an eye out for updates on our progress, maps and photos of the expansion, and how YOU can help make this unprecedented effort to expand Baltimore Woods Nature Center a success!

Help The Woods grow by making  
a year-end gift on our website.



**Baltimore Woods Nature Center fosters enduring stewardship of our natural world by offering immersive programs and a place in Central New York for everyone to cultivate appreciation and personal connections to nature through environmental education, recreation, play, and research. We put nature in your hands.**



## Get Involved

Take an active role in environmental stewardship by...

- Becoming a member or renewing your membership
- Volunteering your time and talents
- Giving a scholarship or an item from our wish list
- Making a donation to ensure our future success

*See our newly updated "Get Involved" webpage for more ideas!*

## Give the Gift of Nature This Holiday Season!

A gift membership to Baltimore Woods Nature Center is the perfect way to share a whole year of adventure, exploration, and relaxation with family and friends!

**Visit [baltimorewoods.org](http://baltimorewoods.org) to purchase one today!**



# The Child Within the Naturalist

by Fran Lawlor, Land Manager

Nature passion drives so many of our land management volunteers here at The Woods. There are times when we are out "bucksuckling" or planting native plants into our restoration project areas that I find myself musing about their younger selves exploring fields, fens, and forests and the experiences they carried away that have made them the committed environmental stewards and citizen scientists they are today. Those bug-bitten, sunburned, scratched-up explorers are now practicing botany skills and collecting data to determine whether our new "fen fence" will have a positive impact on the vegetation in the rich sloping fens on the preserve.

Rich sloping fens are unique wetland plant communities. Rich refers to mineral rich because they are fed by significant groundwater flow, unlike a bog which is mainly fed by precipitation. Rich sloping fens are state rare ecological communities, and our rich sloping fens support state rare plants such as Ohio goldenrod. We fenced in the fens to exclude our hungry deer herd, hoping that if there are plants being suppressed by browsing they will rebound.

When you are hiking along the west end of the Overlook Trail take a look into the fenced area to see the fragile and rare ecological community protected by the fence. One of our passionate volunteers has been documenting the flora and fauna, not only of the fens, but of the entire Baltimore Woods Nature Center preserve, and is sharing that information on iNaturalist.org. If you like digital rabbit holes, go to iNaturalist.org and visit the records for Baltimore Woods Nature Center and Baltimore Woods Fen Complex. You will find a great aid to help you identify the plants and creatures



**Sections of fence out on the preserve protect fragile and rare ecological areas known as rich sloping fens from hungry deer, allowing for research and monitoring.**

you encounter here at The Woods. If you want to know about the abundance or rarity of a species, visit the New York Flora Atlas, a project of the NYS Natural Heritage Program.

Cadres of retired and wanna-be botanists have designed a monitoring protocol to help us follow changes in the fens as we protect them from foraging deer. We have also engaged volunteers and some budding scientists from one of SUNY-ESF's first year biology classes to monitor long-term changes to the forest within the deer fence compared to unprotected forest. These citizen scientists give us capacity to manage Baltimore Woods' natural systems that we value for the bug-bitten, sunburned, scratched-up campers and hikers we welcome to the preserve every day.

## Patty Weisse Education Assistance Award Goes to...

This year's recipient is Trevor Guerrina, who has been a teen volunteer at summer camp. He will attend Colgate University this fall to study biology.

# This Season at Baltimore Woods...

By Alexandra Grove, Environmental Educator

Everyone knows when autumn arrives. I know it has when I smell the crisp air, feel the warmth of my sweater, and see the burst of color from the trees. The comforting hues of gold, orange, and red seem to slowly overtake shades of green. To us, that color feels like the trees' last gift to us before they go into slumber. To the trees, it is simply survival.



Days get shorter, temperatures drop, and living things sense that winter is coming. Squirrels rush to store food, birds prepare for long journeys, and we get hats and gloves out of the closet. Deciduous trees read these signals as well. They know the time has come to begin the process of shutting down sugar production. During this process, each leaf looks as though the vibrant green color is being drained from

it and that's because it is! Chlorophyll, the pigment that helps plants make food, is broken down and reabsorbed by the tree. Other pigments in the leaves become exposed, giving us the fall colors we know and love.

This season is a magical time to explore, on your own or with your family. Discover all the changes that happen during this transition period, big and small, right here at The Woods!

*Fresh. Local. Nutritious. Delicious!*

## *The Winter Farmers Market at Baltimore Woods*



Second Saturday of each month  
from 10am-1pm

November 9  
December 14  
January 11

February 8  
March 14  
April 11

Shop for locally grown and produced products to enjoy fresher and more delicious food while vastly reducing the carbon footprint of your food. Admission and parking are free. Visit our Winter Farmers Market page on facebook for more delicious details and updates throughout the season.

*Currently in the Gallery*

### *Nikolay Mikushkin: En Plein Air*

September 6 - October 25  
Reception: September 7, 2 - 4pm

Inescapable nature  
interpreted in oil paintings



*Mosaic in October*



*Split Rock Road, Saranac Lake*

*Upcoming in the Gallery*

### *Drawing on Talent Member Art Exhibit*

November 1 - December 21

Reception: November 2, 2 - 4pm

*Call for Artists!*

Members of Baltimore Woods are invited to submit work to our 11<sup>th</sup> annual members' exhibit. Visit [www.baltimorewoods.org](http://www.baltimorewoods.org) or stop by The Woods to pick up the entry form and guidelines.

*Submission deadline:  
October 14<sup>th</sup>.*

# September

## 6 Star Party: Goodbye Summer Skies 8-10pm

Come take in a view of the first-quarter moon, Jupiter, Saturn, Venus, Uranus, and Neptune. As the moon sets, we'll get our last look at the Summer Milky Way. Back-up date September 7<sup>th</sup>. For all ages. \$6 members; \$9 public.

## 12 Stonework Play 10am-12pm

Even a stone, one of the simplest forms of nature, can become a powerful resource to connect humans to the natural world and enrich the imagination. International Early Childhood consultant and Stonework Play artist Diana Suskind will lead us in a creative storytelling activity, inspiring participants to create meaningful stories through contact with nature. Together we will gather stones, using them along with our imagination to construct a story, render a drawing, and write a narrative to be shared with others. Program for adults. \$6 members; \$9 public.



## 18 Nature's Little Explorers: Fantastic Fall 10-11am

Calling all Little Explorers! Fall is a beautiful time for a nature adventure. Come play in The Woods and discover all the wonderful changes happening all around. Just because the days are getting shorter doesn't mean we can't still make the most of them!

This six-week series meets on Wednesdays from September 18<sup>th</sup> through October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Each week will feature walks, hands-on discovery, and play outside (rain or shine). Topics will include: Apples, Log-rolling, Falling Leaves, Fairy Houses, Tricky Nature, and Web-slingers. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Program for ages 3-5. \$35 members; \$50 public.

## 19 Trail School at Baltimore Woods: Hike to Phillips Pond 10am-12pm

What do you get when you mix a hike, experienced naturalists, room to explore, and a dash of serendipity? The Trail School at Baltimore Woods! This week we will explore the pond for frogs, turtles, dragonflies, and anything else we can find! Children must be accompanied by an adult. For ages 5-15. \$6 members; \$9 public.

## 21 A Night at the Woods 7:30-9:30pm



While our trails close at dusk, life in The Woods is just starting to stir when the sun goes down. For one night only, join us as we explore the exciting and mysterious nocturnal world of Baltimore Woods at an event for all ages! Using flashlights, black lights, and no lights at all, we'll put our senses to the test to discover the hidden nocturnal forest. Then grab a s'more and share stories around the fire. Don't miss your chance to experience A Night at The Woods! Program for all ages. Free for members; \$5 for public. Sign up online.

## 26 Guide to Backyard Birdwatching 10-11:30am

Your backyard can become a hub of activity for migrating and overwintering birds with just a few simple tips and tricks. Learn about different feeders, types of food, common feeder birds, and how to deal with squirrels. We will also explore Project FeederWatch and how you can get started collecting data for The Cornell Lab. Program for adults. \$6 members; \$9 public.



*Make Baltimore Woods part of your autumn fun at*

# A Night at The Woods September 21, 7:30-9:30pm

Free to members; \$5 public

When the sun goes down, The Woods comes to life! Put your senses to the test in a starlit forest walk, investigate which creatures glow under a black light, be wowed by the insects that appear when light is near and listen to campfire stories by a cozy fire!

**Sign up online at [baltimorewoods.org](http://baltimorewoods.org).**



# Autumnal Fairy Festival

Saturday, October 12, 12-4pm

Meet the fairy queen  
Explore the enchanted trails  
Stroll through the labyrinth  
Make fairy houses in the gardens  
Create a handcrafted wand  
Share in the magic of The Woods!



*Costumes are encouraged and imagination is a must!  
For all ages. \$10 members; \$15 public.*

**Sign up at [baltimorewoods.org](http://baltimorewoods.org)!**

## October

### 4 Star Party: The Draconids Meteor Shower 7-9pm

The Draconids meteor shower peaks around this time, although it is not a very "big" shower. We'll have another great view of the first-quarter moon, Jupiter, Saturn, Venus, Uranus, and Neptune, plus hello to fall skies. Back-up date October 5<sup>th</sup>. Program for all ages. \$6 members; \$9 public.

### 10 Signs of Autumn 10-11:30am

'Tis the season for all the wonders we love in autumn. From lovely leaf foliage, to cool, crisp days, and don't forget that refreshing autumn smell, we've got it all here at The Woods! Ever wonder why these marvels appear each year? Join us as we tour the forest exploring why the signs of autumn are here! Program for adults. \$6 members; \$9 public.

### 17 Trail School at Baltimore Woods: Hike to Peanut Hill 10am-12pm

What do you get when you mix a hike, experienced naturalists, room to explore, and a dash of serendipity? The Trail School at Baltimore Woods! This week we will head up to the popular Peanut Hill to build stick forts or anything else we can imagine. Children must be accompanied by an adult. For ages 5-15. \$6 members; \$9 public.

### 24 Citizen Science: Understanding Community-Driven Research 10-11am

Highly trained professionals are not the only ones who can participate in research and data analysis - you can too! Learn the trade of becoming a citizen scientist in your community as we discuss the many ways you can turn your keen observation skills into data for professional scientists. Program for adults. \$6 members; \$9 public.

### 26 CSI: Predator vs Prey 7-9pm

It's the weekend before Halloween and mischief has found its way to The Woods! Join us for a night of crime scene

investigation as we learn about animals and their predators. Find out who ate who...it could be you! For ages 3 and up. \$6 members; \$9 public.

## November

### 7 Micro Hike 10-11am

Explore the microscopic forest on this late-autumn walk through the woods! Using microscopes and hand lenses, we'll get a fascinating view into just how complex the forest can be. Program for adults. \$6 members; \$9 public.



### 11 Star Party: Rare Mercury Transit! 6-8am *Early morning program!*

On this day, a rare transit of Mercury occurs at sunrise. This happens only every few years, and the eastern US is one of the best viewing locations. Come early and watch the tiny black disc of

Register online for programs at  
[www.baltimorewoods.org](http://www.baltimorewoods.org).

## PUBLIC PROGRAMS

Mercury transit across the sun, using specially filtered telescopes. No back-up date! For all ages. \$6 members; \$9 public.

### 14 Trail School at Baltimore Woods: Hiking the Old Roads 10am-12pm

What do you get when you mix a hike, experienced naturalists, room to explore, and a dash of serendipity? The Trail School at Baltimore Woods! This week we will explore some of the forgotten farm roads in Baltimore Woods. Who knows what we might find? Children must be accompanied by an adult. For ages 5-15. \$6 members; \$9 public.

### 16 Field Trip to Montezuma Wildlife Refuge 9am-12pm



Come along for a guided trip to see some of the last of the migratory birds before the water freezes over. Carpool leaves Baltimore Woods at 8:15am, otherwise meet at the refuge's visitor center at 9am. Bring binoculars and dress warm. Program for all ages. \$6 members; \$9 public.



### *We're Thankful for our Volunteers!*

To demonstrate our appreciation, each month, Baltimore Woods Nature Center staff invites its volunteers to a delicious lunch, sourced from locally grown and produced foods. To share in this bounty, we ask that volunteers RSVP by calling (315) 673-1350 to let us know you're coming.

**Mark your calendar with these  
upcoming volunteer lunch dates:**

**September 18  
October 16  
November 20  
@12:30pm**

### 21 How Winter Trees Work 10-11:30am

Trees have fascinating adaptations to get through the cold, dark months in the northeast. We'll go for an easy walk to find out just how these burly plants deal with the coming freezing winds, ice, and snow. Program for adults. \$6 members; \$9 public.

### 23 Migrate, Hibernate, Acclimate 1-2pm

Birds, mammals, herps – oh my! Will they travel to distant lands, sleep through it all, or conquer the cold? Explore the different ways animals in New York recognize and prepare for winter. For ages 6 and up. \$6 members; \$9 public.

## December



### 7 Caroling in the Woods 7-8:30pm

Pick up a lantern and song sheet and enjoy a beloved tradition at Baltimore Woods. Bring holiday treats to share with fellow carolers. This event is free for all ages, and as always, donations are appreciated. Lanterns will be provided. Bring a flashlight if you prefer. Please RSVP on our website.



### 12 Trail School at Baltimore Woods: Forest Bumble 10am-12pm

What do you get when you mix a hike, experienced naturalists, room to explore, and a dash of serendipity? The Trail School at Baltimore Woods! This week we will go on a "bumble" through the woods, following wherever our feet or instincts take us. Children must be accompanied by an adult. For ages 5-15. \$6 members; \$9 public.

### 13 Star Party: Geminids Meteor Shower 7-10pm

The Geminids is the king of the meteor showers. It is considered by many to be the best shower in the heavens, producing up to 120 multicolored meteors per hour at its peak. It is produced by debris left behind by an asteroid known as 3200 Phaethon, which was discovered in 1982. Running annually from December 7-17, it peaks this year on the night of the 13<sup>th</sup> and morning of the 14<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately the nearly full moon will block out many of the meteors this year, but the Geminids are so bright and numerous that it should still be a good show. Back-up date December 14<sup>th</sup>. Program for all ages. \$6 members; \$9 public.

### 19 Snow Stories: Animal Track Edition 10-11 am

By learning the basics of animal tracking, a whole new world is opened up for you! Are you looking for a fun winter activity? Our furry friends are out and about leaving clues, waiting for you to decipher their stories in the snow! Snowshoes provided or bring your own. Adult program. \$6 members; \$9 public.

### 21 Winter Solstice Hike 7-8:30pm



Join us for a tranquil, lantern-lit hike through the woods to observe the longest night of the year. Learn about ancient solstice traditions and celebrate the return of the sun by exploring the sights and sounds of nature at night. Snowshoes will be provided. For ages 5 and up. \$6 members; \$9 public.

### *~ Save the Date ~ Baltimore Woods Annual Meeting*

**Tuesday, January 28  
6:30pm**

**Potluck dinner  
6:00pm**

# Veterans Day Nature Adventure Camp Wild Science!

*Eureka! It's a day for discovery at Baltimore Woods!*

**Monday, November 11, 9am-4pm**



So many questions, so little time! It's a day of exploration, discovery, and experiments in The Woods. Leave the textbooks at home, we are going outside! \$45/child/day. Pre-registration and Family Level membership are required. Before and after care are available.

Visit [baltimorewoods.org](http://baltimorewoods.org) for full details. Register online today!

## Fall is Fantastic...Especially for Preschoolers! Nature's Little Explorers at Baltimore Woods

Fall is a beautiful time for a nature adventure. Come play in The Woods and discover all the wonderful changes happening all around. Just because the days are getting shorter doesn't mean we can't still make the most of them!

### Weekly topics include:

Apples	Fairy Houses
Log-rolling	Tricky Nature
Falling Leaves	Web-slingers

This six-week series meets on Wednesdays from September 18<sup>th</sup> through October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Each week will feature walks, hands-on discovery, and outside play (rain or shine). Children must be accompanied by an adult. Program for ages 3-5. \$35 members; \$50 public.



For more details about outdoor adventures for our youngest nature lovers, visit our website at [www.baltimorewoods.org](http://www.baltimorewoods.org).



# Nature in the City News!

By Becky Wilson, Education Manager

Another year of learning has begun! This fall we're entering into our 18<sup>th</sup> year of *Nature in the City* lessons in the Syracuse City School District and our educators have been busy getting everything ready for an engaging year of hands-on/minds-on science!

We have seen firsthand that children who learn science concepts through hands-on activities in the outdoors are able to deepen their personal connection to nature. Through *Nature in the City*,



Through hands-on activities, first grade students learn about the life cycle of a pumpkin.

students explore their senses in nature, learn about animal adaptations (including visiting with live creatures!), visualize how water moves across the Syracuse landscape, explore different types of energy, "visit" other planets, solve animal crime scenes, compare different biomes, and look at the landscape and geology of Syracuse to explore natural history. Then



Students discover how sap from maple trees is turned into syrup.



Second grade *Nature in the City* lessons teach students to identify birds in their neighborhoods and learn how adaptations help them survive in urban areas.

these newly minted young scientists get to head outside the classroom to apply what they learned by identifying different habitats, studying snowflakes, watching how maple syrup is made, searching for different birds with binoculars, and investigating the water quality of a local stream.

One of our goals every year is to get students outside as much as possible and to use the green spaces around their schools to enhance the lessons we are presenting in the classroom. As interpreters we can help to make nature relatable, accessible and fun for all of our students. Through engaging activities, we are able to turn an everyday schoolyard or nearby park into a real-world laboratory for scientific investigation, helping students to connect to the world around them. By encouraging them to experience nature first hand, students can find a way to build their confidence and nurture their natural curiosity – and teachers notice a difference after these experiences! In our 2018-19 teacher survey, 99% responded that their students showed an increased interest in the natural world as a result of the program.

**We are looking forward to another year of engaging students with the wonders of nature!**



## 2019-2020 Sponsors

Syracuse City School District

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Carrols Corporation

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Company Inc.\*

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Lisa and Brian Schwabenbauer\*

Anonymous Donors and Friends

*\* We welcome these new partners  
to Nature in the City!*

Official Media Partner

**BJ  
NN Business Journal  
News Network**

## Want to be a part of *Nature in the City?*

We are seeking new corporate and individual partners to support this program. Help us bring hands-on science and so much more to over 10,000 students in the Syracuse City Schools!

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

# September

1

Building Closed  
for Holiday

3



5

Art Exhibit Opens  
Star Party: Bye  
Summer Skies  
8-10pm

Art Reception  
2-4pm

Add native trees and shrubs to your garden this time of year.

8

9

10

11

Stonework  
Play  
10am-12pm

13



15



16

17

Nature's Little  
Explorers  
10-11am  
Volunteer Lunch  
12:30pm

Trail School  
10am-12pm

20

A Night at  
The Woods  
7:30-9:30pm

22

Fall Equinox

24

Nature's Little  
Explorers  
10-11am

Backyard  
Birdwatching  
10-11:30am

27

28

29

30



Learn about citizen science projects you can do this winter!

# October

1

Nature's Little  
Explorers  
10-11am

3

Star Party:  
The Draconids  
7-9pm

5

Meet the fairy queen at Fairy Festival!



7

8

Nature's Little  
Explorers  
10-11am

Signs of  
Autumn  
10-11:30am



Autumnal  
Fairy Fest  
12-4pm

13

Art Exhibit  
Submission  
Deadline  
Hunter's Moon

15

Nature's Little  
Explorers  
10-11am  
Volunteer Lunch  
12:30pm

Trail School  
10am-12pm

17

19

20

21

22

Nature's Little  
Explorers  
10-11am

Citizen Science  
10-11am

Art Exhibit Ends

Predator vs.  
Prey  
7-9pm

Jack-o-lanterns originate from an Irish tale called "Stingy Jack".

27

28

29

30



Don't forget to pre-register for programs online at [www.baltimorewoods.org/programs](http://www.baltimorewoods.org/programs).

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

# November

Did you clean out your nest boxes yet?



Art Exhibit  
Opens

Art Reception  
2-4pm

Micro Hike  
10-11am



Farmers Market  
10am-1pm

Star Party:  
Mercury Transit  
6-8am!

Day Camp  
9am-4pm



Trail School  
10am-12pm

Montezuma  
Field Trip  
9am-12pm

Volunteer Lunch  
12:30pm

How Winter  
Trees Work  
10-11:30am

Migrate,  
Hibernate,  
Acclimate  
1-2pm

Flocks of wild turkey can reach up to 200 individuals!

Building Closed  
for Holiday

Building Closed  
for Holiday



# December

Forage for edible fungi-yes, even in winter!



Community  
Dinner  
6-9pm

Caroling in  
The Woods  
7-8:30pm

Trail School  
10-12pm



Star Party:  
Meteor Shower  
7-10pm

Farmers Market  
10am-1pm

Snow Stories  
10-11am

Art Exhibit  
Closes  
Solstice Hike  
7-8:30pm

Winter Solstice

The Interpretive Center will be closed for the holidays from December 22<sup>nd</sup> through January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020

Building Closed

Hibernacula are places that protect hibernating animals from winter weather.



# Membership Matters!

by Meg Schader, Membership and Development Coordinator

When you hike our trails, attend a program, or visit our Interpretive Center, it's easy to identify our staff. What might not be so obvious are the hundreds of members and volunteers that make those opportunities possible. Because we are not a county or state park, your membership dues and donations are especially valuable to us, and they are necessary to keep our nonprofit healthy and growing.

We rely on you to help us preserve the environment and educate future generations of environmental stewards, and you rely on us for opportunities to learn about natural science and engage in outdoor activities. Our members are curious about the world around them and eager to learn and practice new skills, so we offer education for all ages, and our program fees are waived or discounted for our members. Also, thanks to the Reciprocal Network organized by the Association of Nature Center Administrators (ANCA), our members have access to free or discounted admission to over 180 nature centers in the country (see our website for a link to participating centers).

We truly appreciate all the ways that you support us—from renewing your membership each year to volunteering your time each week. We are here because of you, and for you, so please let us know how we can continue to improve, develop, and serve you.



Linda Church and Rose Burdick, two of our A-Team volunteers, work hard every week to keep our preserve in good shape for our visitors to enjoy. Thanks to all our volunteers for everything they do to ensure that visiting Baltimore Woods is a safe, educational, and positive experience.



## Donate your old vehicle to support The Woods!

Do you have an old car or truck parked in your yard? Turn it into a cash donation to Baltimore Woods through our new vehicle donation program!

Here's how it works:

1. Call Insurance Auto Auctions (IAA) at (315) 699-2622
2. Tell IAA you'd like to donate a vehicle to benefit Baltimore Woods Nature Center
3. IAA will arrange to pick up and auction your vehicle
4. We will be notified by IAA when your vehicle is sold
5. You will receive an acknowledgement letter from us, which can be used for tax purposes

For more information, contact Meg Schader at [meg@baltimorewoods.org](mailto:meg@baltimorewoods.org).

## 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 180 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](http://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:**

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**Return this coupon with payment to:**

**Baltimore Woods Nature Center**

**P.O. Box 133**

**Marcellus, NY 13108-0133**





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

P.O. Box 133  
Marcellus, NY 13108

**Interpretive Center  
and Art Gallery Hours:**  
Monday–Friday, 9am–4pm  
Saturday, 10am–4pm  
Closed Sundays

**Holiday Closures:**  
August 31 & September 2  
November 28 & 29  
December 22–January 1

Hiking trails are open dawn to dusk  
No admission or parking fees  
No pets please

Find us on the web at  
[www.baltimorewoods.org](http://www.baltimorewoods.org)  
or on social media



Non-profit Organization  
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New York  
Permit Number 9

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

## NATURE TIP



Did you know you still have time to forage for fungi? Cold-weather fungi such as chicken of the woods, chaga, and turkey tail make hearty meals, teas, or tinctures! Fungi have dangerous look-alikes, so join a foraging club to learn how to identify them. Ask landowners for permission before collecting.

**Celebrate the Seasons at The Woods!**  
Join us for one of these fun family activities!

*September 21*

**A Night at The Woods**

*October 12*

**Autumnal Fairy Festival**

*December 7*

**Caroling in The Woods**

*December 21*

**Winter Solstice Hike**

*See pages 4-6 for more details on these seasonal programs!*