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Piney Run Nature Center
30 Martz Rd.
Sykesville, MD 21784

Bear Branch Nature Center
300 John Owings Rd
Westminster, MD 21158



Piney Run and Bear Branch Nature Camps 2009

Piney Run
Nature Camp
Bear Branch
Summer
Camps

2009



Bear Branch Nature Center
300 John Owings Rd.
Westminster, MD 21158
410-848-2517

Piney Run Nature Center
30 Martz Rd.
Sykesville, MD 21784
410-795-6043



(Clip for Bear Branch Membership)

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ (type) for _____ (type) membership.

Check payable and mailed to:

**Friends of Hashawha/
Bear Branch**
300 John Owings Road
Westminster, MD 21158

I am a new member
 I am renewing
 I am interested in volunteering at Bear Branch or Hashawha

Yearly Membership

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

Contributions in excess of your membership fee are tax deductible.

Date Rec. _____	Office Use Only
MCard _____	News. _____
Comp. En- _____	

(Clip for Piney Run Membership)

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ for _____ (type) membership.

Check payable and mailed to:

**Piney Run Recreation and
Conservation Council**
30 Martz Road
Sykesville, MD 21784

I am a new member
 I am renewing
 I am interested in volunteering at Piney Run

Membership Rates: (memberships are good at both Nature Centers)

Family	\$15	Full Time Student	\$8	Patron	\$500
Individual	\$10	Organization	\$25	Benefactor	\$1000
Senior Citizen (62+)	\$8	Contributing	\$50	Lifetime	\$250
Senior Couple	\$12	Sustaining	\$100		

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Accessibility Notice: The Americans with Disabilities Act applies to the Carroll County Government and its programs, services, activities, and facilities. If you have any questions, suggestions, or complaints, please contact Jolene Sullivan, the Carroll County Government Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, at 410-386-3600, 1-888-302-8978, Fax 410-876-5255, and TTY No. 410-848-9747, or e-mail jsullivan@ccg.carr.org. The mailing address is 10 Distillery Drive, First Floor, Suite 101, Westminster, MD. 21157.

Nature Camps in Carroll County

Carroll County is fortunate to have two Nature Centers and two summer environmental camp programs.

Bear Branch Summer Camps are located at Bear Branch Nature Center and Hashawha Environmental Center in the northern region of Carroll County just north of the city of Westminster.

Piney Run Nature Camp, operated by Piney Run Nature Center, is located within Piney Run Park in the southern end of the county near the town of Sykesville. Campers will explore nature through crafts, games, songs, boating, and much more.

IMPORTANT REMINDER!

To be eligible for the Members Only Registration your MEMBERSHIP MUST BE RENEWED by February 28, 2009. Your membership benefits will extend to both Nature Center camps.

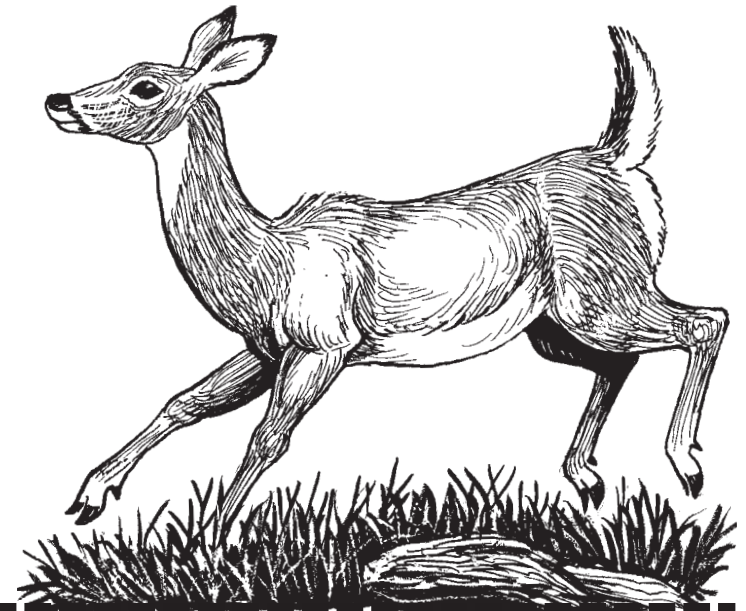
It is not necessary to become a member to attend either Camp. However, for Piney Run Nature Camp you must be a member to participate in the Members Lottery registration before registration opens to the general public. To become a Piney Run member call 410-795-6043.

For Bear Branch Summer Camp members can register by mail before the general public. To become a Bear Branch member, call 410-848-2517.

To join the Nature Center of your choice and participate in the members only registration opportunities, your membership must be a Family, Contributing, Sustaining, Patron, Benefactor, or Life Membership.

Membership

Members of the Piney Run Recreation and Conservation Council and the Friends of Hashawha/Bear Branch, play an important role in providing additional financial and volunteer support for their respective facilities. As a member you will receive a Program Guide three times a year listing programs at both Nature Centers, discounts on nature shop items, as well as invitations to exclusive Members Only Programs.



APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Complete both sides of the application and be sure to complete all Bear Branch Camp information.

Incomplete forms will not be accepted until they are fully filled out, and this may delay your child's enrollment in camp.

Include a \$10 deposit check.

Return registration form and check in the mail to **Bear Branch** as soon as possible after March 16th (members) or March 23rd (nonmembers).



kayaks, certified outfitter lead caving trip, transportation to daily activities, dinner Thursday, and breakfast and lunch on Friday are provided.)

Fee: \$245/member; \$270/nonmember

Nature Detectives Camp

June 30th – July 2nd

Ages 6-8

Tuesday - Thursday

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

During this camp, children will act as detectives as they explore and understand the hidden wonders of nature. Campers will use their skills to “detect” nature; activities will include dissecting owl pellets, tracking, hikes, and stream exploration.

Fee: \$65/member; \$80/nonmember

Water, Water Everywhere Camp

Session A. July 7th – July 10th

Ages 9-12

Session B. July 28th – July 31st

Tuesday - Friday

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Experience some of the wonders of water in this camp! Campers will walk through the wetland, explore the stream, canoe, and even swim in the pool as they discover all the wonders of the waterways that make up Hashawha!

Fee: \$95/member; \$110/nonmember

Walk on the Wild Side Camp

July 21st– July 24th

Ages 7-10

Tuesday - Friday

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

During this camp, we will learn about some of the habitats, plants, and creatures that are found at Hashawha. Search for the places that salamanders live, see a raptor up-close, check bluebird boxes, and participate in lots of other fun activities. We will also discover the adaptations of these animals, as well as the foods that they eat.

Fee: \$95/member; \$110/nonmember

PINEY RUN NATURE CAMP

Piney Run Nature Camp is a non-profit day camp dedicated to promoting an attitude of awareness and appreciation of the natural environment through fun, educational programs and activities. Located within Piney Run Park, the Camp offers children an opportunity to explore woodlands, fields, streams, and lake shore habitats in a well supervised environment. For more information about the camps please call 410-795-6043.

IMPORTANT REGISTRATION INFORMATION!

Since Piney Run Nature Camp fills quickly, we recommend registering early. *Please follow these registration procedures:*

- ❖ **To be eligible for the Members Only Lottery Registration your MEMBERSHIP MUST BE RENEWED by February 28, 2009.**
- ❖ To register a camper, please fill out **ONE (1) Nature Camp Lottery and Registration Form per child** (make copies if needed) and return it along with \$10 per child as a deposit.
- ❖ To participate in the Members Only Lottery, registration forms must be **postmarked or hand-stamped at the Nature Center by March 13, 2009.** Members returning registration forms **after March 13th** will be included with the general public registration.
- ❖ Lottery participants will be contacted by mail regarding the status of your child(ren)'s registration. Postcards will be sent no later than April 3rd. **Because the lottery is a random drawing, there are no guarantees that we will be able to register your child in the camp session you request, as some grade levels fill more quickly than others.** We will do our very best to accommodate all lottery participants.
- ❖ Registration will be open to the **general public**, on a first come first serve basis, beginning March 14th. **Registration forms will not be accepted before March 14th.** After March 14th, forms will be accepted and filed in the order in which they arrive, but placement will not begin until March 27th.
- ❖ Those registering after March 13th will be notified by mail or phone of your child(ren)'s status.

FEES & PAYMENT

Tuition Deadline

When your child is registered for a camp, your \$10 deposit check will be put toward the Camp fee. It is non-refundable.

If your child is placed within a group, the **tuition balance will be due by May 29, 2009**. Please call the Nature Center if you must cancel. Beginning June 1st, we will substitute children from the waiting list if your full payment has not been received.

Refunds

· If your child(ren) cannot be placed, your \$10 check(s) will be returned. Otherwise, the \$10 deposit is non-refundable.

· If you pay the full tuition, and withdraw your child(ren) before June 10, 2009 half of the tuition paid will be refunded.

· Refunds will not be given for cancellations made on or after June 10, 2009.

· Refunds will not be given when children are dismissed from camp for behavioral problems.

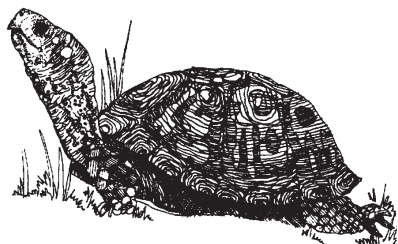
· Some camps have minimum enrollment requirements. If for any reason these minimums are not reached, then the given camp could be cancelled. In such a case, all related camp fees, including the \$10 deposit, will be refunded.

Confirmation

Parents whose children are registered in Camp will be sent a confirmation letter in late June, along with important camp information and additional forms to be filled out and returned when their child starts camp. Parents should keep all information until their child has completed his/her full camp session.

Scholarships

A limited number of scholarships are available for those qualifying for financial assistance. Contact the nature center for an application as soon as possible. The deadline for scholarship applications is May 1, 2009.



FEES & PAYMENT

- When your child is registered for a camp, your \$10 deposit check will be put toward the Camp fee. It is non-refundable.
- The balance of tuition (less the \$10 deposit) is due before **June 5, 2009**. If any camper withdraws from camp, substitutes from the waiting list will be contacted at that time.

REFUNDS

- Once your child is registered for a camp, your \$10 deposit check is non-refundable.
- After full payment is made for camp, it is also non-refundable unless the camper suffers a documented medical emergency which keeps him or her from attending camp.
- Refunds will not be given if a child is dismissed from camp due to behavioral problems.
- Some camps have minimum enrollment requirements. If for any reason these minimums are not reached, then the given camp could be cancelled. In such a case, all related camp fees, including the \$10 deposit, would be refunded.

Bear Branch Nature Center's Camp Sessions

Please note that age for enrollment in all Bear Branch Camps is determined by your child's age on June 1, 2009.

Archery Camp

June 17th – June 19th
Wednesday – Friday

Ages 8-14
9 a.m. – 3.p.m.

For those with no experience, or those who have attended previous archery programs. Either way, make sure you like to shoot a lot! Two morning sessions will emphasize form and mechanics. After lunch, we'll take a short swim, and then return to the range to shoot a 300 round and play other fun shooting games. Participants should be sincere about learning/improving their archery skills.

Fee: \$75/ member; \$90/ nonmember

Outdoor Exploring Camp

Tuesday, June 23rd-Wednesday, June 24th; 9 a.m.-5p.m. Ages 13-18
Thursday, June 25th, 9 a.m. (overnight) – Friday, June 26th; 5 p.m.

During this camp, we will travel to different locations, hike scenic overlooks, scramble over boulders, kayak waterways, go caving, and delve into other adventures, all along the way honing our natural history skills. Camp will include an overnight, underneath the stars. (Tents,

Bear Branch Nature Center Summer Camps

This summer, Bear Branch Nature Center is offering a variety of camps, to provide summertime fun and environmental education for campers ages 6 through 18. Bear Branch is an ideal location for camp, providing streams, meadows, forests, and wetlands to explore. Campers will learn about nature, work on conservation projects, explore the park, and participate in games, crafts and field trips. For more information about any of the Bear Branch Camps, you may contact the Naturalists at (410) 848-2517.

IMPORTANT REGISTRATION INFORMATION!

Since Bear Branch's Summer Camps fill quickly, we recommend that you register early.

Please follow these registration procedures:

- ◆ Registration for Bear Branch Camps will be **in writing only**, sent to Bear Branch through the *MAIL*. The Nature Center **DOES NOT** accept walk-in or phone-in registrations.
- ◆ To register for a camp session, parents must complete the Registration Form found in this booklet. A separate registration form should be completed for each camper. The **completed registration form**, along with a **\$10 deposit check**, must be **MAILED** to: Bear Branch Nature Center, 300 John Owings Rd., Westminster, MD 21158.
- ◆ **Registration begins on March 16th for Nature Center members. Non-members can register beginning on March 23rd.** Members may not register non-members. Completed registration forms will be accepted chronologically, by postmark. **Forms postmarked before March 16th (members) or March 23rd (nonmembers) will be returned to the sender.**

CONFIRMATION

- ◆ After registering for camp(s), parents and campers will receive a confirmation letter, along with important camp information and forms.
- ◆ If a registration form is received after a camp is filled, you will be notified and added to the camp's waiting list. The \$10 deposit will be returned if your child can not be placed in that camp.



Piney Run Nature Camp: An Overview

Camp Staff & Camper Groups

Children are grouped according to the grade they will have finished in June of 2009. With the exception of the oldest group, *Outpost*, each group of 15 children is supervised by a qualified adult Senior Counselor, two high school or college aged Junior Counselors and a Volunteer. Outpost has just ten children with one Senior Counselor, a Junior Counselor and a Volunteer.

Campers in groups 1 and older will go canoeing (life jackets will be provided and are required and a counselor will be present in every canoe). Campers will learn to catch and release fish in a humane way. Campers in groups K-4 will have a cookout and campers in groups 5 & Outpost will have an overnight at the end of each week.

Camp Dates & Times

All camp sessions are Monday – Friday, 9:30am - 3:30pm, with the exception of group 5 & Outpost's overnights and group 4's evening cookout.

Session 1: July 6-10

Session 3: July 20-24

Session 2: July 13-17

Session 4: July 27-31

Groups K - 3rd

Fee: \$120/member; \$140/nonmember

Campers in groups K-3 will have a cookout for lunch on Friday.

Group K: Finishing Kindergarten

Theme: Diversity of Animals – includes learning about reptiles, amphibians, birds, mammals, fish and insects.

Group 1: Finishing 1st grade

Theme: The Earth – includes rocks and minerals, fossils, volcanoes, and weather, as well as plants and animals that depend on the earth.

Group 2: Finishing 2nd grade

Theme: World of Plants – includes plant life, from mushrooms to trees, and their importance in nature.

Group 3: Finishing 3rd grade

Theme: Forest Habitat – includes the plants, animals, and soils that make up the forest here at the Park.

Groups 4 & 5

Fee: \$120/member; \$140/nonmember



Group 4: Finishing 4th grade

Theme: Watery World – includes the freshwater habitats in the Park. The focus will be on aquatic insects, fish, waterfowl, and other animals that depend upon water.

Campers in Group 4 will stay until 9 pm on the Thursday they are at camp for a campfire supper and evening activities.

Group 5: Finishing 5th & 6th grades

Theme: Ecology and Conservation – campers in this group will learn about the ecology of local plants and animals and conservation efforts toward protecting wild species.

Campers in Group 5 will have a camp-over on the Thursday they attend camp and be provided breakfast and lunch on Friday.

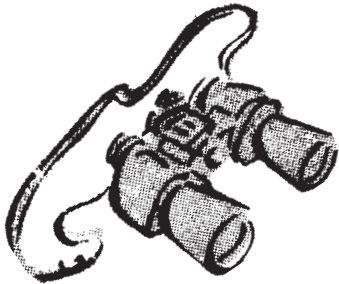
Outpost Group

Fee: \$130/member; \$150/nonmember

Outpost: Finishing 7th & 8th grades

Theme: Outdoor Training and Leadership – campers will explore outdoor living and leadership skills by participating in cooperative and independent activities. Some of the activities will include, flat-water kayaking skills as well as some moving water skills, lake explorations, primitive overnight camp outs and fieldtrips to nearby natural areas. Students will also work on a conservation project.

There will be a fieldtrip to a nearby natural area one day that your camper attends camp. Outpost campers will have a camp-over on the Thursday they attend camp and be provided breakfast and lunch on Friday.



Piney Run Nature Camp 2009

Clip and Save...A Few Details

Put this on your refrigerator to remind you about camp!

Dates my child is attending: _____

Drop-Off and Pick-Up – Drop off time is at 9:30 a.m.-sharp! Pickup time is at 3:30 p.m.-sharp! Campers will meet each day of camp in front of the tennis courts. Counselors will be waiting there with rosters to welcome your children as you sign them in. As you pick up and sign out your children each day, it is a good time to meet the counselors and ask them any questions you may have. If you are late to drop off or pick up our child, please call the Nature Center at 410-795-6043, to let us know.

Babysitting – Piney Run does not offer before-or-after-camp daycare for children. We recommend that you find your own sitter.

Medication – If your child requires medication (prescription or nonprescription), please see the Camp Director on Monday morning. You will need to fill out a Medication form if medication administration is needed during camp.

Lunches – Campers should bring a lunch in a soft-sided lunch bag with a reusable freeze pack and their name and group number on it (reusable bag is preferred). It is also recommended that children bring a water bottle that they can carry with them throughout the day.

Cook-Outs - For campers in Groups K - 3 there will be a lunchtime cook-out on Friday. On this day you will not need to send a lunch to camp. For Groups 4, 5 and Outpost there will be an evening supper cook-out on Thursday. The camp director may be asking parents to sign up to bring certain items to donate to the cook-outs, for example chips or carrot sticks.