

Come explore with us!

*Piney Run & Bear Branch
Summer Nature Camps*



2012

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



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

Table of Contents

General Information and Membership

Piney Run Nature Camp

Bear Branch Summer Camps



ACCESSIBILITY NOTICE: The Americans with Disabilities Act applies to the Carroll County Government and its programs, services, activities and facilities. Anyone requiring an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or who has a complaint should contact Jolene G. Sullivan, The Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator, 410.386.3600, 1.888.302.8978, MD Relay 7-1-1/1.800.735.2258 or email jsullivan@ccg.carr.org as soon as possible but no later than 72 hours before the scheduled event.

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 Hashawha Environmental Appreciation Center and Bear Branch Nature Center in the northern region of Carroll County just north of the city of Westminster.

Piney Run Summer Nature Camp is located at Piney Run Park and Nature Center in the southern region of the county near the town of Sykesville. Campers will explore nature through hikes, crafts, games, songs, boating, and much more.

IMPORTANT REMINDER!

To be eligible for the *reduced* Members' Camp Fee and early member registration, your MEMBERSHIP MUST BE VALID THROUGH THE END OF AUGUST 2012. Your membership benefits will extend to both Nature Center camps. It is not necessary to become a member to attend either Nature Camp.

Piney Run Nature Camp also offers members an opportunity to register early before registration opens to the general public. Please see the PINEY RUN NATURE CAMP REGISTRATION information under the Piney Run section for details. 410-795-6043.

For Bear Branch Summer Camps, Please see the BEAR BRANCH NATURE CENTER SUMMER CAMPS REGISTRATION information on under the Bear Branch section. 410-386-3580.

To join the Nature Center of your choice and participate in the member's 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 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 4 times a year listing programs at both Nature Centers, discounts on nature shop items, as well as an invitation to exclusive Members Only Programs.

PINEY RUN SUMMER NATURE CAMP

Piney Run Summer 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 please call 410-795-6043.

IMPORTANT REGISTRATION INFORMATION!

*****NEW PROCEDURES FOR PINEY RUN SUMMER NATURE CAMP 2012*****

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

- ❖ **To be eligible for the Early Members' Only Registration, February 1, 2012, thru March 15, 2012, your MEMBERSHIP EXPIRATION DATE MUST FALL AFTER August 31, 2012. IF NOT, YOU MUST RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP at time of registering for camp.**
- ❖ To register a camper, please fill out **ONE (1) Nature Camp Registration Form per child** (make copies as needed) and return it with **PAYMENT IN FULL**. *****Campers will be placed on a FIRST-COME, FIRST-SERVE basis.***** A confirmation letter will be sent for each registration.
- ❖ Registration will be open to the **general public**, on a first come first serve basis, beginning March 16th. Registration forms must accompany **PAYMENT IN FULL** and campers placed at time of registration. A confirmation letter will be sent for each registration.

****NEW IN 2012**-**

Early Drop Off/Late Pick up - Piney Run Park will provide early drop off from 8 am – 9:30 am; and offer late pick up from 3:30 pm until 5 pm each day of camp. The cost is \$10/session (am **OR** pm); \$15/day for both am and pm; or \$70/week for **BOTH** am and pm. Early drop off and late pick up will be held at the Piney Run Nature Center and will be staffed by Park Staff, camp counselors and volunteers. Registration is required for early drop off/late pick up at least one week prior to camp start date. Contact the Nature Center at 410-795-6043 for a registration form for Early Drop Off/Lake Pick up. ****A \$10 late fee per child for every 15 minutes after 5 pm will be assessed for those campers not picked up by 5:00 pm. This will be strictly enforced.**

FEES & PAYMENT

Tuition

When registering your child(ren) for camp, the full balance will be due at time of registration. Refunds will be given minus a \$10.00 administrative fee up to 14 days prior to camp start date.

Refunds

- If your child(ren) cannot be placed, your full amount will be returned.
- If you withdraw your child(ren) less than 14 days prior to camp start date, no refund will be issued.
- Refunds will not be given when children are dismissed from camp for behavioral problems.

Confirmation

Parents whose children are registered in Camp will be sent a confirmation letter once registration is received. Important camp information will be sent out in June. 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, 2012.



Piney Run Nature Camp – An Overview

Camp Staff & Camper Groups

Children are grouped according to the grade they will have completed in June of 2012. All groups of children are supervised by a qualified adult Senior Counselor, a high school or college aged Junior Counselor and 1 to 3 Volunteers. All groups will have a maximum of 20 campers per age group.

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.

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 2-6

Session 3: July 16-20

Session 2: July 9-13

Session 4: July 23-27

Groups K - 3rd

Fee: \$130/member; \$150/non-member

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.*

Piney Run Summer Nature Camp

Groups 4 & 5

Fee: \$130/member; \$150/non-member

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 Thursday. This will include a campfire supper and evening activities. The campers will have cookout on Friday for lunch.

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 Thursday. The campers will be provided breakfast and lunch on Friday.

Outpost Group

Fee: \$150/member; \$170/non-member

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 2012

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.

****NEW IN 2012****– **Early Drop Off/Late Pick up** - Piney Run Park will provide early drop off from 8 am – 9:30 am; and offer late pick up until 5 pm each day of camp. The cost is \$10/session (am or pm); \$15/day for both am and pm; or \$70/week for both am and pm. Early drop off and late pick up will be held at the Piney Run Nature Center and will be staffed by Park Staff, camp counselors and volunteers. **Registration is required** for early drop off/late pick up at least one week prior to camp start date. *****A \$10 late fee per child for every 15 minutes after 5 pm will be assessed for those campers not picked up by 5:00 pm. This will be strictly enforced.***

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

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 Thursdays. 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.

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 15. 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) 386-3580.

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 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 12th for Nature Center members. Non-members can register beginning on March 19th.** Members may not register non-members. Completed registration forms will be accepted chronologically, by postmark. **Forms postmarked before March 12th (members) or March 19th (non-members) 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.
- Registration forms received after a camp is filled will be added to the camp's waiting list and notified. The \$10 deposit

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 8, 2012**. 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, will 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, 2012.

Where the Wild Things Are

June 19th – June 22nd

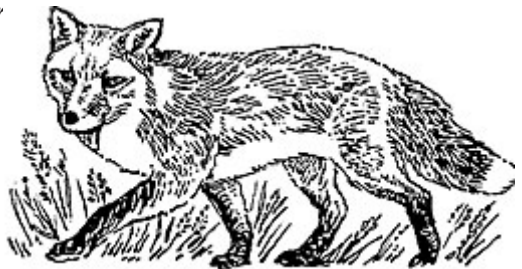
Tuesday – Friday

Ages 6-8

9 am – 3 pm

There are many exciting wild creatures to learn about at Hashawha. While exploring meadows, woods, and wetlands, your child will discover the diverse wildlife that abides here. They will also learn about habitats and why it is important to conserve them.

Fee: \$95/member; \$105/nonmember



Raindrops to Rivers

June 26th-June 29th

Ages 9-12

Tuesday - Thursday 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

There is magic in the water from the time it falls from the clouds as rain until it flows as a river to the Chesapeake Bay. Your child will explore ponds, streams, and wetlands as they learn more about the importance of this vital resource.

Fee: \$95/member; \$105/nonmember

Junior Naturalists

Ages 13-15

Tuesday, July 10th – Wednesday, July 11th 9 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Thursday, July 12th, 9 a.m. (overnight) – Friday, July 13th, 3 p.m.

Teenage nature enthusiasts will spend the week exploring the diverse habitats of Hashawha. They will learn to identify reptiles, amphibians, birds, plants, and other organisms while stalking through woods and wetlands. While spending an evening in the park, participants will search for owls and learn more about astronomy. (Dinner Thursday, and breakfast and lunch on Friday will be provided)

Fee: \$105/ member; \$115/ nonmember

Forests and Fields

July 17th – July 20th

Ages 6-8

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

There is so much to explore at Hashawha! Your youngster will spend time discovering the wonders the park has to offer. Through hikes, games, and activities, they will learn more about what makes of these habitats unique.

Fee: \$95 member/\$105 nonmember



Happenin' Herps

July 24th – July 27th

Ages 9-12

Tuesday - Friday

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

This camp is for the kid that loves all things cold-blooded. By exploring favorite haunts of local reptiles and amphibians, participants will learn more about the unique habits of these animals and learn why they are so important to the ecosystem.

Fee: \$95/member; \$105/nonmember

Mountains to the Bay

August 7th – August 10th

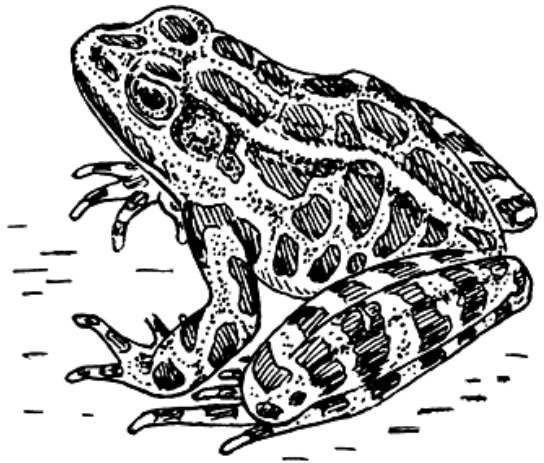
Ages 12-15

Tuesday - Friday trip includes overnights

Tuesday drop-off at 9:00 am to Friday pickup at 5:00 pm.

Join us for fun and adventure as we take a trip from the mountains of Western Maryland to our own Chesapeake Bay. Maryland offers opportunities to explore different and diverse environments. Take trips to some of the most beautiful and unique places in our state. Fee includes transportation, meals, lodging, and professional instruction.

Fee: \$250 /member; \$275 /nonmember



(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. _____ News. _____ Comp. En _____
Office Use Only

(Clip for Piney Run Membership)

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ (type) 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
Individual \$10
Senior Citizen (62+) \$8
Senior Couple \$12

Full Time Student \$8
Organization \$25
Contributing \$50
Sustaining \$100

Patron
Benefactor
Lifetime

\$500
\$1000
\$250

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Westminster, MD 21158



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