

**BEAR BRANCH AND
PINEY RUN
NATURE CENTER
MEMBERSHIP**



Are you a Nature Center Member?

Nature Centers Members play an important role within our parks and membership has numerous privileges! Membership benefits include: discount registration for Nature Camps, 10% discount in either Nature Center Gift Shop, invitations to "Members Only" programs and activities, an opportunity to serve on your affiliate Council, plus Library book check out privileges at Piney Run and Bear Branch. As a member of either Piney Run or Bear Branch, you also know that you are helping to support quality environmental education programs at the Nature Centers in Carroll County.

Membership Rates:

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

YES, I would like to become a member of (please check one):

Bear Branch Nature Center
Check payable and mailed to:
Friends of Hashawha/Bear Branch
300 John Owings Road
Westminster, MD 21158

Piney Run Nature Cntr
Check payable and mailed to:
Piney Run Recreation &
Conservation Council
30 Martz Road
Sykesville, MD 21784

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ for _____

(type) membership

*Contributions in excess of your membership fee are tax deductible.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

**PINEY RUN NATURE
CENTER PROGRAMS**

PARK & NATURE CENTER

Hours and Entrance Fees-

November 1 thru March 31:

Piney Run Park hours: Park gates are open Monday-Friday 8am-4pm; closed weekends and holidays. No entrance fees will be collected during off season and the lake is closed for boating. Visitors are still welcome to walk the trails, fish from the shores, and visit the Nature Center.

Nature Center hours: Open Monday-Friday, 10am-4pm; closed weekends and holidays.

In case of inclement weather ... if snow/icy conditions or heavy rains/thunderstorms are in the forecast, call before coming to a program to see if it has been canceled or postponed. If Carroll County Government offices are closed, the Park and Nature Center are also closed. If Carroll County Public Schools are closed, delayed or dismissed early, Nature Center programs that fall *during those time periods* are canceled. (Please see Closings/Inclement Weather Policy for Recreation & Parks programs.)

Hours and Entrance Fees-April 1 thru October 31:

Piney Run Park hours: Park gates are open 7 days a week from 7am until sunset. Entrance fees are collected at the Gatehouse upon arrival at the Park (\$5/vehicle for Carroll County Residents; \$10/vehicle for All Others). Season Vehicle Passes are available from the Park Office and Gatehouse for \$40/vehicle for Carroll County Residents; \$55/vehicle for All Others.

Nature Center hours: Open Wednesday-Saturday, 10am-5pm and Sunday 12-5pm.

**Please note vehicle entrance fees are waived for Nature Center programs listed in this section of the Program Guide for pre-registered participants ONLY (those registered at least 24 hours before event date) from April-October, unless otherwise stated in the program description.*

Nature Center Membership: The Nature Center offers memberships to help support its activities (see this page). Newsletters and program announcements are mailed to members regularly. Members receive discounts on our popular nature camp and on purchases made at the Nature Center Shop, as well as an invitation to our "Members Only Programs," which are free or at a reduced fee. Membership to the Nature Center does NOT include the entrance fee into the Park. Please call the Nature Center at 410-795-6043 for more information on Membership Benefits (see form this page to apply).

All programs meet at the Nature Center, unless otherwise noted in the description - - -

MOTHER NATURE, MOM AND ME

3 sessions (1x/month) Wednesday, Thurs. OR Friday
 Program #09PR177 Wednesdays 11am: Dec 2, Jan 6, Feb 3
 Program #09PR178 Thursdays 10am: Dec 3, Jan 7, Feb 4
 Program #09PR179 Thursdays 4:30pm: Dec 3, Jan 7, Feb 4
 Program #09PR180 Fridays 10am: Dec 4, Jan 8, Feb 5
 Program #09PR181 Fridays 12:30pm: Dec 4, Jan 8, Feb 5
 For ages 4-6, preschool-kindergarten. Bring your little ones to our

fabulous preschool programs at Piney Run Nature Center! The children in both the “Mother Nature, Mom and Me” and “Babes in the Woods” programs learn about nature through outdoor and indoor activities, crafts, songs and stories. Thursdays and Fridays at 11am are special sessions for families with children in both age groups. The children should bring a mom, dad, grandparent or significant adult, and dress for the weather, as we always spend some time outside. Each program will include one 45-minute session each month – no refund for missed sessions.

TIME: Choose above FEE: \$18

BABES IN THE WOODS

3 sessions (1x/ month) Wednesdays, Thursdays OR Fridays
 Program #09PR182 Wednesdays 10am: Dec 9, Jan 13, Feb 10
 Program #09PR183 Thursdays 10am: Dec 10, Jan 14, Feb 11
 Program #09PR184 Fridays 10am: Dec 11, Jan 15, Feb 12
 For age 3 years (please see description for “Mother Nature, Mom and Me” above). Each program will include one 45-minute session each month - no refund for missed sessions.
 TIME: Choose above FEE: \$18

OUTDOOR RANGERS

3 session (1x/ month) Wednesdays OR Thursdays
 Program #09PR185 Wednesdays 1pm: Dec 9, Jan 13, Feb 10
 Program #09PR186 Thursdays 4:30pm: Dec 10, Jan 14, Feb 11
 For ages 6-11, first-fifth grade. Elementary-aged children learn about nature through a short lesson and a hike outdoors, so be sure to dress for the weather. Parents are always welcome to stay for the program and accompany us on the hike, but it is required only if the child needs a little extra help. Each program will include one 90-minute session each month - no refund for missed sessions.
 TIME: Choose above FEE: \$18

PINEY RUN EXPLORERS

3 session (1x/ month) Thursdays OR Fridays
 Program #09PR187 Thursdays 10am: Dec 17, Jan 21, Feb 18
 Program #09PR188 Fridays 10am: Dec 18, Jan 22, Feb 19
 Explorers is a program for home-schooled students age 10-13 who want to learn more about nature and how to care for the environment. Each class includes an indoor learning time, with students researching and discussing a different topic each month, and a related outdoor exploration or project in Piney Run Park. Students should wear proper outdoor footwear and dress for the weather, as we will always go outside. Each program will include one 90-minute session each month - no refunds for missed sessions.
 TIME: Choose above FEE: \$18

NATURE TOTS

Dec 8 OR Jan 12 OR Feb 9 1 session Tuesday
 Program #09PR189 December 8
 Program #09PR190 January 12
 Program #09PR191 February 9

After a short walk we'll snuggle up with some good stories. If you have a favorite nature story bring it to share. Bring your blanket. Dress appropriately for the weather as we will be going outside. Age: Preschool- Elementary.

TIME: 11am-12pm FEE: \$5



MORNING BIRD WALKS

Jan 21 OR Feb 18 1 session Thursday

Program #09PR192 January 21

Program #09PR193 February 18

Led by Dave Harvey of the Carroll County Ornithological Society, the bird walks begin at the Piney Run Nature Center front door then head out on the trails. Please bring binoculars and dress for the weather (rain or shine). Age: 10-adult.

TIME: 8:30am FEE: \$5



LUNCH & LEARN

Dec 11 OR Jan 15 OR Feb 12 1 session

Program #09PR194 December 11 - Owls

Program #09PR195 January 15 - Bees

Program #09PR196 February 12 - Turtles

Join us for an educational natural history chat while eating your lunch. Bring a bagged lunch. Topics are listed next to the date. Age: 10-Adult

TIME: 12-1pm FEE: \$5

CHRISTMAS AT LONGWOOD

December 4 1 session Friday

Program #09PR197

There's no better way to get into the Holiday spirit than by meandering through gardens, listening to beautiful music, and enjoying the spectacular lighted fountain displays of Longwood Gardens. We'll travel by van, and don't forget to bring some extra spending money for the gift shop and for dinner at the conservatory. Age: 9-adult (under 18 must be accompanied by a paying adult). REGISTRATION DEADLINE: November 20

TIME: 11am-10pm FEE: \$30

PRESCHOOL NATURAL ORNAMENT WORKSHOP

December 15 1 session Tuesday

Program #09PR198

Back by popular demand! Help your preschooler celebrate the holiday season by making various nature ornaments and crafts for gifts or just for fun. Wear clothes that are good for making crafts. Age: 3-6 years.

TIME: 10-11am FEE: \$5



SOLSTICE CAMPFIRE

December 21 1 session Monday

Program #09PR199

Celebrate the season with songs, stories and hot chocolate. Bundle up and head over to the park for an early evening campfire before dinner to help celebrate the holiday season.

Dress appropriately for the weather we'll be outside. Age: All.

TIME: 5-6pm FEE: \$5

WINTER FAIRY TEA PARTY

December 23 1 session Wednesday
Program #09PR200

Celebrate the winter and snow with the Piney Run Nature Center. Wear or bring means winter or snow or fairies to you. Children will enjoy a snack and tasty herbal tea. Age: Preschool-Elementary. REGISTRATION DEADLINE: December 16.
TIME: 1:30-3:30pm FEE: \$7



CYCLES IN NATURE

January 8 Friday
Program#09PR201

Nature is filled with cycles. We'll look at some of the cycles going on in Piney Run Park and create a puzzle of how they interrelate with each other to take home with you. Dress appropriately for the weather as we'll be going outside. Age: Elementary.
TIME: 4:30-5:30pm FEE: \$8



BALD EAGLES OVER CONOWINGO DAM

January 18 1 session Monday
Program #09PR202

We're off early on this holiday day to watch the Bald Eagles hunting the Susquehanna River near the Conowingo Dam. We'll spend the day scanning the sky and rocks below for all the birds that favor this place in the winter. Bring a bagged lunch. Dress appropriately for the weather & bring binoculars. Van

transportation provided. Meet in the boat trailer parking lot. Ages: All (under 18 must be accompanied by a paying adult). REGISTRATION DEADLINE: January 4.
TIME: 7:30am-5pm FEE: \$10

PRESCHOOL WINTER CARNIVAL

January 19 1 session Tuesday
Program #09PR203

Back by popular demand! Are you ready for some fun! Bring mom or dad to the Nature Center for a winter carnival! We'll have nature games, crafts and even snacks. You could even win a prize! Age: 3-6 years.
TIME: 10:30am-12pm FEE: \$5

SIGNPOSTS

January 25 1 session Monday
Program#09PR204

There's no school today, need something to do? Come hang out with us. We use signs and maps to find our way. What do animals use? We'll explore how animal tracks and signs help them find their way. Dress appropriately for the weather as we'll be going outside. Age: 8-12 years.
TIME: 1-2pm FEE: \$5

VULTURES & THEIR SCAVENGER FRIENDS

January 27 1 session Wednesday
Program #09PR205

Why do we see more vultures in the winter? Are there others of their scavenger friends around? Come investigate scavengers with us. Dress appropriately for the weather; we'll be going outside. Age: Elementary

TIME: 4:30-5:30pm FEE: \$5/child

RED FOX RUNNING

January 28 1 session Thursday
Program#09PR206

Join Red Fox and his wildlife friends on their search for food in the winter. We'll go outside and try our luck finding their food. Dress appropriately for the weather. Age: Preschool-Elementary.
TIME: 10:30-11:30am FEE: \$5



WAKE UP MR GROUNDHOG

February 2 1 session Tuesday
Program #09PR207

Did the groundhog see his shadow today? Groundhogs are still snug in their burrows this time of year, but it won't be long before the male groundhogs take their first steps out of their winter underground home. Make a groundhog craft and learn about these snoozing rodents. Age: Preschool.

TIME: 10-11am FEE: \$6



GREENING YOUR HOME

February 5 1 session Friday
Program#09PR208

Looking for ways to make your home more "green"? Join us as we share ways from easy to elaborate. Parents - there will be a free kid's program during this time for those registered. Please note children's names and ages in the registration comment box. Age: adult.

TIME: 7-9pm FEE: \$5

ANIMAL VALENTINES

February 12 1 session Friday
Program #09PR209

What do animals do to attract a mate? We'll learn about the "valentines" the animals that live in Piney Run use to attract a mate, then make your own "valentines" to take home. Age: Preschool-Elementary.

TIME: 11:30am-12:30pm FEE: \$7



RECYCLED FEEDERS

February 16 1 session Tuesday
Program #09PR210

There's no school today, need something to do? Come hang out with us. We'll make a bird feeder or two from recycled goods. Bring an empty 2 L (liter) drink bottle with cap/lid. Age: Preschool-Elem.

TIME: 11am-12pm FEE: \$5

GALLS GALORE

February 16 1 session Tuesday
Program #09PR211

There's no school today, need something to do? Come hang out with us. A gall, what's that? You've seen them and might not have even known it. We'll learn about galls and make our own. Dress appropriately for the weather as we'll be going outside, and for creating your own gall. Age: 8-12 years.

TIME: 3-4pm FEE: \$7

STANDING SNAGS & LYING LOGS

February 23 1 session Tuesday
Program #09PR212

What good are dead trees and downed logs? Very good, for the plants and animals who use them for shelter and to find food. Explore our snags and logs and then make your own. Dress appropriately for the weather as we'll be going outside. Age: Preschool-Elementary.

TIME: 11am-12pm FEE: \$7

THE NATURE OF SOUND

Feb 25 OR Feb 26 1 session Thursday or Friday
Program #09PR213 Beginner - February 25, 11am-12pm

Program #09PR214 Intermediate - February 26, 4:30-5:30pm

We'll learn about animal's ears and the sounds they make and maybe even learn to identify some by using our ears. Dress appropriately for the weather as we'll be going outside. Beginner age: Preschool-7 years; Intermediate age: 8-12 years.

TIME: Choose above FEE: \$5/child

GOURDS AGAIN

February 26 1 session Friday
Program #09PR215

Creating gourd crafts has been around for eons, from traditional aboriginal pieces to folk art. Gourd crafting is as easy or hard as you want it to be and is something anyone can do. This time we take on a gourd bowl with sea grass trim around the opening. Want to add a handle, too? We'll show an easy way to do just that. Wear clothes that can get crafting dirty. Age: adult.

TIME: 7-9pm FEE: \$28

Pavilion Rentals - Piney Run Park

Piney Run Park pavilions are a great place to hold events. Pavilion Rentals are available 7 days a week, from April 1st thru October 31st by reservation and permit only - -

Small Pavilions are \$100/day
Large Pavilions are \$150/day

Reservations/Information: 410-795-5165

SPECIAL EVENTS

HOLIDAY CRAFT DAY

Saturday, December 12

Adults, come and enjoy the spirit of the holiday season with food and friends. Enjoy making a variety of natural crafts. Morning session is 10 am-12 pm and afternoon session is 1-3 pm. Fees vary by craft. Call the Nature Center for more information and registration form, 410-795-6043. *Please note Nature Center members receive priority for this program. REGISTRATION IS ONLY THROUGH THE NATURE CENTER. Registration for Nature Center members begins November 2. Registration for Non-members begins November 16. Class sizes are limited.

4th ANNUAL CHILDREN'S NATURE PAINTING CONTEST

DEADLINE: March 1

Calling all young artists! Take some time this winter to create a nature related painting. Drop it off at the Nature Center between January 1- March 1 for an opportunity to have your artwork displayed in the Center for the 2010 season. Winners will be chosen from a variety of age groups. Contact the Nature Center for a registration form and more information.

FREE PROGRAMS

For more information and TO REGISTER, please contact the Piney Run Nature Center at 410-795-6043.

Pre-registration is REQUIRED

FEED THE BIRDS

First Thursday of each Month - 12/3, 1/7, 2/4

Help us feed the birds and learn about those that are visiting the nature center that day. Age: family.

TIME: 4:30-5pm

PINEY RUN PLAY GROUP

Tuesdays

Parents with preschool aged-children are invited to meet at the large playground for informal socializing and play. The Park does not provide supervision of children. Park entrance fees apply April through October. Rain Date: Wednesdays Age: family.

TIME: 10am-12pm

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**VOLUNTEER
OPPORTUNITIES**

For more information and TO REGISTER, please contact the Piney Run Nature Center at 410-795-6043.

Pre-registration is REQUIRED

VOLUNTEER JUNIOR NATURALISTS

Junior Volunteers help with various projects throughout the park ranging from trail cleanup, gardening, bluebird monitoring, to feeding and cleaning the nature center animals. Volunteering hours can count toward service learning hours. Age: 12-18.

Thursday, December 31 10am-1pm

Tuesday, February 16 10am-1pm

HOLIDAY CRAFT DAY

Saturday, December 12 9:30am-3:30pm

We're looking for a few teens to help serve refreshments and/or assist some of our holiday crafters and teachers. Age: 12-18.

KIDS CRAFT DAY PREP

Friday, December 18 2:30-4pm

The kids are coming to work on some awesome holiday projects and our instructors could use some help getting ready. Age: 12-18.

KIDS CRAFT DAY

Saturday, December 19 9:30am-12:30pm

We're looking for a few teens to assist some of our holiday crafters and teachers. Age: 12-18.

WEEKEND JR VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Friday, March 26 4:30-5:30pm

Mark your calendars to learn the ins and outs of caring for our animals at the nature center. Each weekend, April – October, JR volunteers are needed to feed and care for our animals and various other tasks around the nature center. Bring your calendar to sign up for a weekend in April to get your feet wet. Age: 14-18.