

# PINEY RUN NATURE CENTER & PARK

## **NEW 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.

### **NEW Nature Center hours:**

Open Wednesday-Saturday, 11am-4pm, and Sunday 12-5pm. *\*Please note vehicle entrance fees are waived for Nature Center programs in this section for pre-registered participants ONLY (those registered at least 24 hours before event) from April-October, unless otherwise stated in the program description.*

### **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.

**NEW Nature Center hours:** Open Monday-Friday, 11am-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 and Parks programs.)

**Nature Center Membership:** The Nature Center offers memberships to help support its activities. 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. To register, see form on page 22 to apply.

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

## **MOTHER NATURE, MOM & ME**

3 sessions (1x/month) **Wednesdays, Thursdays OR Fridays**

**Program #10PR01** Wednesdays at 11am: Mar 3, Apr 7, May 5

**Program #10PR02** Thursdays at 10am: Mar 4, Apr 8, May 6

**Program #10PR03** Fridays at 10am: Mar 5, Apr 9, May 7

Bring your little ones to our fabulous preschool program at Piney Run Nature Center! The children in both the "Mother Nature, Mom and Me" and the "Babes in the Woods" programs learn about nature through outdoor and indoor activities, crafts, songs and stories. 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. Age 4-6 years.

**TIME:** Choose above **FEE:** \$18/child

## **BABES IN THE WOODS**

3 sessions (1x/month) **Wednesdays, Thursdays OR Fridays**

**Program #10PR04** Wednesdays, Mar 10, Apr 14, May 12

**Program #10PR05** Thursdays, Mar 11, Apr 15, May 13

**Program #10PR06** Fridays, Mar 12, Apr 16, May 14

Bring your little ones to our fabulous preschool program at Piney Run Nature Center! The children in both the "Mother Nature, Mom and Me" and the "Babes in the Woods" programs learn about nature through outdoor and indoor activities, crafts, songs and stories. 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. Age: 3 years.

**TIME:** 10-10:45am **FEE:** \$18/child

## **OUTDOOR RANGERS**

**Mar 10, Apr 14 & May 12** 3 sessions **Wednesdays** (1x/month)

**Program #10PR07**

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. Age: 6-11, first-fifth grade.

**TIME:** 1-2:30pm **FEE:** \$18

## **PINEY RUN EXPLORERS**

3 sessions (1x/month) **Thursdays OR Fridays**

**Program #10PR08** Thursdays, Mar 18, Apr 22, May 20

**Program #10PR09** Fridays, Mar 19, Apr 23, May 21

A program for home-schooled students 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. Age: 10-13.

**TIME:** 10-11:30am **FEE:** \$18

### MORNING BIRD WALKS

Mar 18 OR Apr 15 OR May 20  
 1 session Thursday  
 Program #10PR10 3/18  
 Program #10PR11 5/20  
 Program #10PR12 4/15  
 Led by Dave Harvey of the Carroll County Ornithological Society, the bird walk begins at the Piney Run Nature Center front door then heads out on the trails. Please bring binoculars and dress for the weather (rain or shine). Age: 10–adult.  
 TIME: 8:30am FEE: \$5



### THE LIFE OF BIRDS – MOVIE NIGHT

Apr 1 OR May 6 OR June 3 1 session Thursday  
 Program #10PR13 April 1  
 Program #10PR14 May 6  
 Program #10PR15 June 3  
 Visit the Nature Center this evening for dessert and a movie! Over the next three months we'll watch David Attenborough's 3-disc series, "The Life of Birds." These captivating videos explore some of the most popular, colorful and perfectly adapted creatures on earth. We'll have coffee and snacks too! Age: 10–adult.  
 TIME: 7–8:30 pm FEE: \$6



### LUNCH & LEARN

Mar 12 OR Apr 9 1 session Friday  
 Program#10PR16 3/12 - Beavers  
 Program#10PR17 4/9 - Flowers  
 Join us for an educational natural history chat while eating your lunch. Bring bagged lunch. Topics are listed next to the date. Age: 10–adult.  
 TIME: 12-1pm FEE: \$5



### TIMBERDOODLE PUPPET THEATER

Apr 17 OR May 23 1 session Saturday OR Sunday  
 Program #10PR18 Saturday 4/17, 11am-12pm  
 Program #10PR19 Sunday 5/23, 3-4pm  
 The Piney Run Players present a nature puppet show and follow-up talk about the main characters. Wildly popular with the under 12 age group and their parents. Age: preschool-elementary.  
 TIME: Choose above FEE: \$5

### NATURE TOTS

March 9 1 session Tuesday  
 Program #10PR20  
 After a short walk we'll snuggle up with some good stories. If you have a favorite nature story bring it to share. Bring a blanket. Dress appropriately for the weather we'll be going outside. Age: preschool-elementary.  
 TIME: 11am-12pm FEE: \$5

### SLEEPOVER WITH THE CREATURES!

Mar 12-Mar 13 1 session Friday-Saturday  
 Program #10PR21  
 Come to the Nature Center for an all-nighter! We'll say goodbye to the parents, have a quick dinner, then head out for an evening walk. There will be a movie and some storytelling, too. Bring a sleeping bag and a toothbrush. Parents please pick up your child at the Nature Center by 9am on Saturday. Please be sure to provide an email address when registering, as additional information will be provided via email-include any food allergies. Age: 8-11, 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders. REGISTRATION DEADLINE: March 5.  
 TIME: 6pm Friday – 9am Saturday FEE: \$20



### IT'S COMING UP GREEN

March 17 1 session Wednesday  
 Program #10PR22  
 Spring is around the corner and we're beginning to see green peeking through the ground. Head out with a naturalist in search of the color green. After our exploration we'll enjoy a green snack. Age: preschool-elementary.  
 TIME: 11am-12pm FEE: \$7



### SPRINGFEVER COFFEEHOUSE

March 19 1 session Friday  
 Program #10PR23  
 Join us at the Nature Center for a fabulous night of live Celtic and Nordic music with *Wherligig* featuring the Koons family. With each song there's a story and a history followed by the melodious songs of various traditional instruments. We'll serve various flavored coffees, teas, and excellent desserts. Age: 12–adult.  
 TIME: 7-9pm FEE: \$18



### SPRING FORWARD CAMPFIRE

March 22 1 session Monday  
 Program #10PR24  
 As the spring equinox comes and goes, we'll celebrate the coming of spring with an evening campfire. Learn about the animals that have started to stir as the days grow warmer. We'll sing around the campfire and enjoy some extra yummy s'mores, too. Age: all/family.  
 TIME: 5:30-6:30pm FEE: \$5/person

### NATURE NECKLACES

March 25 1 session Thursday  
 Program #10PR25  
 Beautiful objects are all around us. Join us this afternoon as we search the woods around the Nature Center for various natural materials. Then head inside to make a fun necklace with the natural materials and beads. Fun for all ages! Age: 6–adult.  
 TIME: 4:30-5:30pm FEE: \$6



## MIGRATION HEADACHE

March 31 1 session Wednesday

Program #10PR26

It's that time of year again when animals are heading back to their summer habitats. It may seem like it would be easy since they do it year after year but obstacles do arise. We'll play a game exploring these obstacles. Age: elementary.

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

## SLIPPERY, SLIMY SALAMANDERS

April 14 1 session Wednesday

Program #10PR27

Imagine if you breathed through your skin! Grab mom or dad and head to the Nature Center to explore more interesting facts about these slimy salamanders. We'll go on a salamander search and end with a fun salamander craft. Age: preschool.

TIME: 11-12pm FEE: \$5



## TRACKING TADPOLES

April 21 1 session Wednesday

Program #10PR28

As the weather has warmed, the amphibians have awoken from their winter slumber. Put on your clothes that can get dirty and head out with a naturalist to track tadpoles. Age: preschool-elementary.

TIME: 11-12pm FEE: \$5



## FAMILY CAMPOVER

April 30-May 1 1 session Friday-Saturday

Program #10PR29

Hey kids! Grab your parents and a tent for a wonderful camping experience. We will set up camp, build a fire and prepare supper together. We'll share an early evening hike, followed by some campfire fun. You'll wake up to a campfire breakfast before we break camp. Families provide their own tent and sleeping supplies. Please bring a potluck dish to share for the evening meal. Age: family.

TIME: 5pm Friday - 9am Saturday FEE: \$40/family

## MUDDY FEET

May 9 1 session Sunday

Program #10PR30

There's no better time than spring to romp in the mud puddles and mud flats of the season. Today we'll head to some of these low lying areas to search for prints and other signs of life. Be sure to wear boots and clothes that can get muddy. Age: Elem.-Middle schoolers.

TIME: 3-4pm FEE: \$5



## SEARCHING FOR INSECTS

May 27 1 session Thursday

Program #10PR31

Today we'll learn about the fascinating lives of insects. First we'll use insect traps to harvest some insects for us to study. We'll also head to the lake to take a sample from the water as well. Then, we'll learn about their lifecycle and their important place in nature. Age: elementary.

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

## CAMPFIRE, STORIES AND SONGS

May 28 1 session Friday

Program #10PR32

Bring the entire family for this fun filled campfire!

Tonight we will listen to Native American stories and sing some classic campfire songs. We'll end the evening with s'mores for everyone! Age: family.

TIME: 7-8pm FEE: \$5/person



## 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- 3/4, 4/1, 5/6 3:30-4pm

Help us feed the songbirds and learn about those that are visiting the Nature Center that day. Park entrance fees apply. Age: family.

### PINEY RUN PLAY GROUP

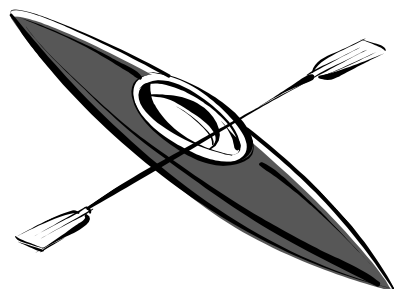
Tuesdays 10am-12pm

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 Day: Wednesdays. Age: family.

### PERENNIAL SWAP

Saturday, April 17 OR Sunday, May 23 1-3pm

Join local plant lovers and novice gardeners and Master Gardener Mary Lewis for our spring plant exchanges. Meet behind the Nature Center to share the bounty of our perennial and herb beds, shrubs, trees and seeds. Water garden plants welcomed too. Please label your contributions and bring along any information to share about them. If you don't have anything to share, please come, as there are usually plenty of extra plants needing homes. Age: adult. Park entrance fees apply.



## KAYAKING AT PINEY RUN

All kayaking paddlers meet at the Piney Run Nature Center Kayak Shack (unless otherwise indicated in the respective description) located at the lake's edge below the Nature Center - just follow the signs for the *Yak Shack*. Paddling equipment is provided; must be able to swim.

### ADULTS ONLY PADDLE

April 3 1 session Saturday  
Program #10PR33

Join us out on the water as we explore Piney Run Lake. Enjoy this opportunity to bird, spot wildlife and look for wildflowers. Previous kayaking experience is necessary; must be able to swim. Wear clothes that can get wet, bring a water bottle and towel. Age: adults.  
TIME: 8-10:30am FEE: \$10

### FAMILY PADDLE

Apr 11 OR May 30 1 session Sunday  
Program #10PR34 4/11  
Program #10PR35 5/30

Your family has had kayak lessons, now it's time to get out together and explore the lake with a guide. Previous kayaking experience is necessary; must be able to swim. Wear clothes that can get wet, bring a water bottle and towel. Age: 8-adult.  
TIME: 2-4pm FEE: \$10

### KIDS KAYAK LAKE TOUR

Apr 18 OR May 29 1 session Sunday OR Saturday  
Program #10PR36 4/18, Sunday  
Program #10PR37 5/29, Saturday

So you've had a kayak lesson, now it's time to get out there and explore with a guide. Children that have completed the Piney Run Kids 'N Kayak lesson are eligible to participate; must be able to swim. Wear clothes that can get wet, bring a water bottle and towel. Age: 8-13.  
TIME: 2-4pm FEE: \$10

### DINNER AND KAYAK PADDLE

May 16 1 session Sunday  
Program #10PR38

Join us out on the water as we explore Piney Run Lake. Enjoy this opportunity to bird, spot wildlife and look for wildflowers. Previous kayaking experience is necessary; must be able to swim. Wear clothes that can get wet, bring a water bottle and towel. This program meets at the Nature Center. Age: adult.  
TIME: 5-8pm FEE: \$15

## 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

Monday, March 15 2 - 5 pm  
Thursday, April 1 1:30-4:30 pm  
Saturday, May 29 10 - 1 pm

Junior Volunteers help with various projects throughout the park ranging from trail cleanup, gardening, bluebird monitoring, to feeding & cleaning Nature Center animals. Age: 12-18.

### WEEKEND JR VOLUNTEER TRAINING

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

Students who wish to volunteer and earn community service hours should plan to attend this orientation 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. Adults interested in volunteering should call the Nature Center to schedule training. Age: 14-18.

### PINEY RUN GARDEN CLUB WORK DAY

Saturday, April 17 2-4pm

Educate the public and yourselves, maintain the Piney Run flower beds, add some signage to the existing flower beds, trade perennials, and have lots of fun! If you plan to attend, please contact the Nature Center. If you cannot attend, but are interested in helping with the garden maintenance, let us know. Age: 10-adult (under 14 must be accompanied by adult).

### PROJECT CLEAN STREAM

Saturday, April 10 9am-12pm

Take part in the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay's statewide clean up day. By cleaning our lake and streams we will help the Chesapeake Bay Watershed stay clean. Join us in keeping Piney Run Lake and the Chesapeake Bay healthy. Age: all/family.

### EARTH & HERB FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday, May 8 10:30am-4:30pm  
Age: 12 and up (12-14 accompanied by an adult)

## 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 1-October 31 by reservation and permit only, call 410-795-5165 - -

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