

PINEY RUN NATURE CENTER & PARK

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 at the Park Office and Gatehouse for \$40/vehicle for Carroll County residents; \$55/vehicle for all others.

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 program description.*

Nature Center hours: open Wednesday-Saturday, 11am-5pm and Sunday 12-5pm. Closed Mondays and Tuesdays.

November 1 thru March 31 (off season)

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, 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 many "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 16 to apply.

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

HOORAY FOR HUMMINGBIRDS

June 6 1 session Sunday

Program #10PR40

Learn all about the "flying jewels" of the bird world, including what to feed them and how to attract them to your garden. Make a feeder of your own and plant some hummingbird flowers to take home. Age: 12 and up.

TIME: 2-3:30pm FEE: \$8



UNSCAVANGER SCAVANGER HUNT

June 11 1 session Friday

Program #10PR41

Did you see something blue, green, or purple? How about fuzzy, smooth or rough? Let's take a hike together to explore all the colors and textures the park has to offer or maybe what it does not offer? We will explore what belongs and what does not as we trek through our trails. Age: 6 and up.

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



TOTALLY TOADS

June 13 1 session Sunday

Program #10PR42

If you love toads, this is the program for you! First we'll talk about these hopping amphibians and then make a toad home that you can decorate and take home! Age: 6 and up.

TIME: 2-3pm FEE: \$7

PRESCHOOL DISCOVERY WEEK

June 16-June 18 3 sessions Wed, Thurs & Fri

Program #10PR43

Calling all preschoolers! Join us for an exciting week exploring the fields and meadows around the park. We'll take nature walks, make imaginative crafts, have snack, and learn about the many plants and animals that make their home in the meadows at Piney Run. A parent/guardian must be present at the park during this program. Age: 4-5 years.

TIME: 10am-12pm FEE: \$40

MORNING BIRD WALKS

June 17 OR July 15 OR Aug 19

1 session Thursday

Program #10PR44 June 17

Program #10PR45 July 15

Program #10PR46 August 19

Venture outside and join Dave Harvey of the Carroll County Ornithological Society, for a morning bird walk. Search for many different types of songbirds, waterfowl, raptors, and woodpeckers that inhabit Piney Run Park. Beginning birders are welcome. Binoculars and field guides are recommended to bring along, and walks are rain or shine. Age: 10-adult.

TIME: 8:30am FEE: \$5



SUMMER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION

June 20 1 session Sunday

Program #10PR47

Kids, school's out for summer; so let's celebrate! Members from the Westminster Astronomical Society will have telescopes to safely view the sun. Afterwards we'll make some festive crafts and enjoy a themed snack. Age: 8-adult.

TIME: 2-4pm FEE: \$7

-- NO EARLY BIRD OR SENIOR DISCOUNTS for Piney Run Nature Center programs --

ART IN THE PARK

June 25 1 session Friday

Program #10PR48

We will meet at the Nature Center – and walk to several locations with a sketch pad in hand. We will explore the beauty of the lake, the trails, and open fields alike. We will provide paper and colored pencils – feel free to bring other supplies you may need. Age: 8 and up.

TIME: 11am-12:30pm FEE: \$5



GREAT AMERICAN BACKYARD CAMPOUT

June 26–June 27 1 session Saturday-Sunday

Program #10PR49

Join the National Wildlife Federation, Bear Branch and Piney Run Nature Centers for the Great American Backyard Camp-Out! This program provides an opportunity for everyone to relive - or to experience for the first time - how much fun it is to spend a night sleeping under the stars and enjoying the sounds of nature. Set up camp and gather round the campfire to roast hotdogs and make s'mores! Spend the night in a tent and enjoy a continental breakfast before breaking camp. Families are asked to bring their own tents and sleeping bags. Age: families.

TIME: 6pm-8am FEE: \$40/family

WIGGLY WORMS

June 30 1 session Thursday

Program #10PR50

Join us as we discover the wondrous world beneath our feet. We'll go on a worm walk around the park in search of worms at work and any other wiggly creatures we might find along the way. Includes an edible, earthy treat! Age: 6-8; years.

TIME: 11am-12:30pm FEE: \$5

FIREFLY FIREWORKS

July 2 1 session Friday

Program #10PR51

Summertime is firefly time. We'll go for a short walk as we try to catch some fireflies and learn why they light up the night with their natural fireworks display. Please bring a flashlight. All critters will be released at the end of the evening. Age: 6 and up.

TIME: 7:30-9pm FEE: \$5



SLITHERING SNAKES

July 10 1 session Saturday

Program #10PR52

Learn all about these scaly creatures as we separate snake fact from fiction. Can they climb trees? Why do they stick their tongues out? Learn the answers to these questions and more as we talk about these cool reptiles and then take a hike too see if we see any slithering around outside! Age: 6 and up.

TIME: 1-2:30pm FEE: \$5



INLET TRAIL TREK

July 11 1 session Sunday

Program #10PR53

Venture on an afternoon hike along our 3-mile Inlet Trail. We'll stop to take a closer look at some of the plants and animals along the way. We'll end at the Nature Center with an ice cream treat. Age: 10 and up (under 12 must be accompanied by a paying adult).

TIME: 1-3pm FEE: \$5



CATERPILLAR CRAWL

July 31 1 session Saturday

Program #10PR54

Caterpillars seem to be lurking around every corner in the summertime. Learn about their amazing role in nature. We'll even head outside for a caterpillar hunt of our very own. Age: 6 and up.

TIME: 12-1:30pm FEE: \$5

LOOK WHO'S TALKING NOW

August 4 1 session Wednesday

Program #10PR55

Whether it is in person, or on the phone – people communicate a lot. Do animals talk to one another – come to the Nature Center to learn about how animals communicate. We will take a short hike, followed by a craft. Age: 5 and up.

TIME: 11am-12pm FEE: \$6

POETRY IN THE PARK

August 6 1 session Friday

Program #10PR56

Let's meet at the Nature Center and use our beautiful setting to provide creative writing of poetry. Samples and outlines of several types of poetry will be provided – you bring your imagination and creativity. Age: 7 and up.

TIME: 11am-12:30pm FEE: \$5

OWL PROWL

August 27 1 session Friday

Program #10PR57

Get eye to eye with a live owl before heading out into the woods as we try our luck in calling in some of the park's wilder residents! No flashlights please! Age: 10 and up.

TIME: 7:30-9pm FEE: \$5



MILKWEED PEAK

August 29 1 session Sunday

Program #10PR58

Explore the meadows of Piney Run looking and searching for this amazing plant and learn why it's so important. We'll also examine the different insects that rely on milkweed for their survival. Age: 6 and up.

TIME: 2-3:30pm FEE: \$5



All kayaking paddlers meet at the *Yak Shack* (unless otherwise indicated in the respective description) located at the lake's edge below the Piney Run Nature Center

- just follow the signs for the *Yak Shack*. Paddling equipment is provided; must be able to swim.

TWILIGHT KAYAK

June 12 1 session Saturday

Program #10PR59

Enjoy the evening with a relaxing paddle around the lake. We're sure to see a variety of wildlife, including owls, bats, and beaver. Please bring a flashlight; we'll be out till dark. Previous kayaking experience is recommended. Must be able to swim. Wear clothes that can get wet, bring a water bottle & towel. Ages: 14 and up.

TIME: 6:30-8:30pm FEE: \$10

FAMILY PADDLE

July 18 1 session Sunday

Program #10PR60

Explore Piney Run Lake and learn about the wildlife that lives in and around it. We'll search for signs of beaver, turtles, and dragonflies. Previous kayaking experience is recommended. Must be able to swim. Wear clothes that can get wet, bring a water bottle & towel. Paddling equipment provided. Age: 8 and up.

TIME: 5-7pm FEE: \$10

ADULTS ONLY PADDLE

August 1 1 session Sunday

Program #10PR61

Join us out on the water as we explore Piney Run Lake. Enjoy this opportunity to bird, spot wildlife & look for wildflowers. Previous kayaking experience is recommended; must be able to swim. Wear clothes that can get wet, bring a water bottle & towel. Age: adults.

TIME: 5-7pm FEE: \$10

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Please contact Piney Run Nature Center for more information and to register at 410-795-6043. Pre-registration is highly recommended (and much appreciated!)

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY

Saturday, June 4, 1-4pm

Join Piney Run Nature Center as we celebrate the American Hiking Society's signature trail awareness program. Volunteers are needed for a variety of trail maintenance projects. Be prepared to get dirty! Wear old clothes and good work shoes/boots. Students can earn Service Learning Hours - Scout groups welcome! Age 10-adult (under 12 years must be accompanied by an adult).

JUNIOR NATURALISTS

Saturday, June 5, 1-4pm (National Trails Day)

Saturday, July 24, 1-4pm

Saturday, August 28, 1-4pm

Junior Naturalists help with various projects throughout the park ranging from trail cleanup, invasive plant removal, gardening, bluebird monitoring, to feeding and cleaning the Nature Center animals. Age 12-18 years.

MONARCH BUTTERFLY TAGGING TRAINING

Saturday, September 11, 1-4pm

Saturday, September 18, 1-4pm

PRNC is creating ways to improve habitats for Monarch butterflies as they migrate along the coasts to their overwintering roosts in the mountains of Mexico. Volunteers are needed to assist the Naturalists with this conservation project. Attendees will learn all about Monarch Watch, safely catch, tag, and release, and record crucial data. Wear long pants, bring water and a camera. Age 12-adult.

APPLE FESTIVAL

Dumplin' Making: Thursday, September 23:

10am-1pm, 1-3pm, 3-6pm, 6-9pm. Age 14-adult.

Apple Pie Making: Friday, September 24:

10am-1pm, 1-4pm. Age 14-adult.

Apple Pie Baking: Friday, September 24:

pick up throughout the day.

Festival: Saturday, September 25:

9:30am-4:30pm. Age 12 and up (age 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

SUMMER CAMP AT PINEY RUN PARK!

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 and educational programs and activities. Located within Piney Run Park, in the southern end of the county near the town of Sykesville, the Camp offers children an opportunity to explore woodlands, fields, streams, and lake shore habitats through naturalist programs, crafts, games, songs, boating, and much more in a well supervised environment.

Nature Camp will run July 5–July 30. All sessions are one week long. 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 in Groups K-4 will have a cookout at the end of the week. Campers in Group 5 and Outpost Group have a campout at the end of the week. Children are grouped according to the grade they will have finished in June 2010. 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 age Junior Counselors and a Volunteer. Outpost Group has just 10 children with one Senior Counselor and two Junior Counselors.

For more information and/or to receive a registration brochure please stop by the Nature Center or call us at 410-795-6043.



"KEEP A LOOK-OUT" Fall 2010 Guide

MOTHER NATURE, MOM AND ME

3 sessions (1x/month) Tuesdays OR Fridays

Tuesdays 11am: Sept. 7, Oct. 5, Nov. 2

Fridays 10am: Sept. 10, Oct. 8, Nov. 5

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. Bring your mom, dad, grandparent or significant adult, and dress for the weather, as we always spend some time outside. Each session is 45-minutes in length each month. Age: 4-6 years. FEE: \$18

BABES IN THE WOODS

3 sessions (1x/month) Tuesdays OR Fridays

Tuesdays 10am: Sept. 14, Oct. 12, Nov. 9

Fridays 10am: Sept. 17, Oct. 15, Nov. 12

For age 3 years (see description for "Mother Nature, Mom and Me"). FEE: \$18

OUTDOOR RANGERS

3 sessions (1x/month) Wednesdays OR Thursdays

Wednesdays 1-2:30pm: Sept. 8, Oct. 13, Nov. 10

Children learn about nature through a short lesson and a hike outdoors; make sure to dress for the weather. Parents are 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 session is 90-minutes in length each month. Age: 6-10. FEE: \$18

PINEY RUN EXPLORERS

3 sessions (1x/month) Thursdays

Thursdays, 10-11:30am: Sept. 16, Oct. 14, Nov. 18

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. 90-minute sessions. Age: 10-13. FEE: \$18

****SPECIAL EVENT****

PINEY RUN APPLE FESTIVAL

Saturday

September 25

10am-4pm

Help support the Piney Run Recreation and Conservation Council! Head to the park for excellent food, and great family fun. Activities include hay rides, scarecrow making, face painting, raffles, crafts, numerous craft vendors, nature activities and much more!