

RECREATION

55

Bike Drive

Mercer County and the Park Commission are hosting a Bike Drive in collaboration with the Trenton Bike Exchange. The Bike Exchange refurbishes old bikes, no matter the condition, and sells them at a very low cost to families in need. Proceeds support after-school programs at the Boys and Girls Club of Mercer County. Select the Bike Drive location near you. Bonus – your bike donation is tax deductible.

Saturday, April 10 Noon - 4 p.m.

ALL AGES

- The Historic Hunt House 197 Blackwell Road, Pennington
- Ranger Headquarters
 Mercer County Park, West Windsor
- Tulpehaking Nature Center 157 Westcott Ave., Trenton

NATURE PROGRAMS

Just A Hikes

No theme, no focus, no itinerary; this program really is just a hike. Join the Naturalist on these walks throughout our parks. We may take brief pauses to admire various elements of nature, but who knows what we will see or where this hike will lead us. Make sure to wear sturdy shoes and bring a water bottle. Masks required. <u>Click here</u> to register.

Watson Woods Walking Club

Tie up your sneakers and join us as we explore the beautiful trails along Spring Lake. Watson Woods, and the Abbott Marshlands in Roebling Park. This weekly series features a different trail each week. Masks required. <u>Click here</u> to register. Tuesdays & Wednesdays through April from 1–3 p.m.

Teens & Adults

- Free, registration required
- Various park locations

Every Wednesday through April from 10-11:30 a.m.

Teens & Adults

- Free, registration required
- Watson House at Roebling Park

MORE >



NATURE PROGRAMS (continued)

Beaver Walk & Twilight Hike

Join our Naturalist in this search for beavers and other wildlife that live in the between-time of day and night. We'll see lots of beaver signs and maybe even hear a tail slap or two. The beavers have been busy in this neck of the woods! Bring a flashlight. Masks required. <u>Click here</u> to register.

Rise & Shine Hike

Rise and shine! Join a park naturalist for an early morning hike in one of our parks. Fresh air and the sounds of nature are an excellent way to start your day. Remember to wear sturdy shoes, a mask, and to bring a water bottle. Masks required. <u>Click here</u> to register.

Eyes on Eagles

Join our program leaders lakeside to appreciate our resident Bald Eagles! During these 30-minute sessions, our program leaders will interpret Bald Eagle ecology and behavior, provide participants with an up-close look at our nesting pair and answer any questions. Masks required. <u>Click here</u> to register.

Early Bird Walks

Join us for a casual hike dedicated to spotting our fine feathered friends during the spring migration. All abilities of birders are welcome. Bring a pair of binoculars if you have them, extra binoculars are available for those who don't. Free for adults and teens. Masks and social distancing required. <u>Click here</u> to register.

Youth Fishing in our Parks

Join us for a morning of fishing at one of our 'fishing holes. Designed for beginners, we'll provide the instruction and the equipment. Participants age 16 and up must have a current state fishing license. Masks and social distancing required. <u>Click here</u> to register. Thursday, April 1 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Teens & Adults

• Spring Lake at Roebling Park

• \$5 per person, \$20 per family

Friday, April 9 7 - 8:30 a.m.

ALL AGES

Free, registration required
Baldpate Mountain at Fiddlers Creek Parking Lot.

Sunday, April 11 & Friday, April 23 from 1-3 p.m.

ALL AGES

- Free, registration required
- Mercer County Park West Picnic Area

Thursday, April 8 & 22 8 - 10 a.m.

Teens & Adults

• Mercer Meadows at Rosedale Park.

Saturday, April 17 9 - 11:30 a.m..

ALL AGES

Spring Lake at Roebling Park

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NATURE PROGRAMS (continued)

Barn Swallow Celebration

One of the surest signs of spring at Howell Living History Farm is the arrival of the Barn Swallows. Join us on the farm for this in-person program and learn all about these special little birds. Each half hour session accommodates a maximum of 10 people. Masks and social distancing required. <u>Click here</u> to register. Sunday, April 25 1 - 3 p.m.

APRIL 2021 ACTIVITY CALENDAR

ALL AGES

- Howell Living History Farm
- 30-minute sessions

MERCER COUNTY STABLES

English Riding Lessons

English Riding Lessons: Various times available every day. Six years old to Adult Lessons are offered for New, Beginner, and Advanced Riders. Maximum weight limit of 200 lbs. On-line registration is required. Please visit our website for additional information, lesson schedule, and registration link. <u>Click here for more information</u>.

Trail Riding

April weather is great for trail riding! With the leaves gone and slightly warmer temperatures you can see more birds and wildlife. And who knows about April's weather- you may get a chance to experience the beauty of nature after a fresh snowfall or search for signs of spring. Choose a 30-minute or 45-minute trail ride around Mercer Stables property. This is a relaxing walk-only ride. Previous riding experience is not necessary. Weight limit of 210 lbs. Reservation required. Trail route predicated by weather and trail conditions. <u>Click here for more information</u> Weekdays: 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturdays: 1 p.m.-3 p.m. 6 years old to Adult

\$45 per lesson

Ongoing

10 years old to Adult

30-minute trail ride \$35 45-minute trail ride \$45

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MERCER COUNTY STABLES (continued)

Equine Assisted Psychotherapy and Personal Development

We are living in a very difficult time. For some, regardless of age, it is unsettling and frightening and our mental health needs are more important than ever. Equine Assisted Therapies (EAT) are available and may help. EAT sessions are ground based, meaning no riding, and the horses are allowed to interact with you as they wish. With the support of the professional facilitators, including a licensed, credentialed Mental Health Professional, this creates a space to reflect, process, and make deep connections. By appointment only. <u>Click here for more information.</u> By Appointment Only

12 years old to Adult

\$75 per individual session \$100 per family session

HOWELL LIVING HISTORY FARM

Henhouse Visits

Step inside a working henhouse where the farm's Barred Rock chickens are busy laying and help a farmer make their feed: then reach into a nest box and take out an egg! Visitors will learn candling and grading, and visit the farmhouse kitchen to learn a recipe to bring home with their egg. <u>Click here</u> for more information.

Spring Beekeeping & Gardening

Today, expert beekeeper Bob Hughes will open the hives before your very eyes...to check the health of the residents and see how each colony fared through the winter. Mr. Hughes will introduce apiary visitors to a queen, drones, and worker bees before giving a 45-minute presentation, "Life in a Bee Colony." <u>Click here</u> for more information.

Saturday, April 3 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

ALL AGES

Please note that spring 2021 Saturday programs will be modified to encourage social distancing and reflect current State guidelines for public events. Visitors are required to carry masks at all times, and wear them when social distancing isn't possible.

Saturday, April 10 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. ALL AGES

Please note that spring 2021 Saturday programs will be modified to encourage social distancing and reflect current State guidelines for public events. Visitors are required to carry masks at all times, and wear them when social distancing isn't possible.

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HOWELL FARM (continued)

Plowing, Harrowing & Wash Day

Want to know how it feels to put your hand to the plow? This is your chance! Farmers in the field will be using horses to plow and harrow the ground to prepare it for planting corn. There will be opportunities for visitors to step into the furrow and try out the plow—something that could come in handy for those attending the farm's fall plowing match, when visitors of all ages and abilities can win ribbons and prizes for turning good furrows. <u>Click here</u> for more information.

Potato Planting

Visitors of all ages can join workhorses Bill and Jesse to help plant a field of potatoes that will yield over 2.000 pounds of food for local soup kitchens. While farmers drive the horses and steer the plow to open up the rows. helpers will follow behind with baskets of seeds and place them in the furrows. Over the next 4 months the field will be weeded and hilled by interns and volunteers... before visitors again help to harvest the crop in mid-August. <u>Click here</u> for more information.

Saturday, April 17 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

ALL AGES

Please note that spring 2021 Saturday programs will be modified to encourage social distancing and reflect current State guidelines for public events. Visitors are required to carry masks at all times, and wear them when social distancing isn't possible.

Saturday, April 24 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. ALL AGES

Please note that spring 2021 Saturday programs will be modified to encourage social distancing and reflect current State guidelines for public events. Visitors are required to carry masks at all times, and wear them when social distancing isn't possible.

WILDLIFE CENTER

Outdoor Education Environment

The Outdoor Education Environment located at the Mercer County Park Wildlife Center is home to 15 permanent residents. These animals were either permanently disabled, or as a result of human imprinting, are not able to exist in the wild. These enclosures provide a safe environment for these birds and mammals to exist. Masks and social distancing required. <u>Click here</u> for more information. Ongoing Wednesdays - Sundays 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. ALL AGES

Free, self-guided tours

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TENNIS CENTER

Open Indoor Tennis

OMMIS

If it's too chilly for you to play tennis outdoors, the Indoor Tennis Courts at Mercer County Park are open by reservation only. Call (609) 448-8007 to book a court. <u>Click here</u> for COVID-19 restrictions.

2021 Summer Tennis League

Registration for the 2021 Mercer County Summer Tennis League will be held online Registration closes on April 5 at 11:59pm. We will take the first 725 players who register. The league begins April 26 and ends on July 5. There will be a playoff tournament July 10-30 for those who qualify.

When you go online to register, please click on the "browse button" next to the tennis icon <u>Click here</u> to register. <u>Click here</u> for COVID-19 restrictions.

Group Lesson Programming

Group lesson programming will resume in June. Lessons for all ages and levels will be offered. Registration will be held online and will open on Saturday. April 17 beginning at 8 a.m. <u>Click here</u> to register. <u>Click here</u> for COVID-19 restrictions.

www.mercercountyparks.org



ALL AGES

Operating under Phase 3 rules and regulations

Ongoing

Ongoing

ALL AGES

Operating under Phase 3 rules and regulations

Saturday, April 17 8 a.m. ALL AGES

Operating under Phase 3 rules and regulations

