

CLOSTER NATURE CENTER NEWS

P.O. BOX 80, CLOSTER NJ 07624 closternaturecenter.org

By the pond on Ruckman Road
MARCH 2020



Naturalist's Notes:

There so many great things about my job as the director and naturalist here at the Closter Nature Center. Highlights are working with kids and animals and getting to spend so much time outside, but one of the things that I've recently looked at in new light is that most of the people with whom I work are volunteers. From the Nature Center's Board of Trustees to our teenaged helpers, from our trail workers to PTO moms, they all have one thing in common: giving - giving to the community to make our world a better place.

Being surrounded by people that are willing to give their time and energy to a cause is not only motivating, but deeply inspiring. The behind the scenes work that goes into running this place is all done by volunteers. Maintenance of our trails and our forest stewardship project are done by volunteers. The Nature Center's educational programs are enhanced by devoted teenaged volunteers. Many of our in-school programs are financed and arranged for by volunteers. Injured wildlife brought to me often end up being cared for by volunteers.

The Closter Nature Center began when concerned citizens invested their efforts to ensure that there would be a place for nature in our community. Just like those that gave to pave the way for where we are today, our future depends on people committed to give in order to preserve what we have and to further our efforts of promoting environmental education and a sustainable future for the natural world.

See you on the trails... Marc Gussen, Naturalist

MEET THE ANIMALS OF THE NATURE CENTER !

Sunday, March 15th at 3 PM

Come visit the cabin by the pond and meet the animals of the CNC! Our collection of education animals delights children who come for our after-school programs and summer camp, and now it's time for everyone to get to meet them!

The program is free, but donations will gladly be accepted.

Closter Nature Center Help Wanted!

**Volunteer Opportunities at
the Closter Nature Center**

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MARCH AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Pets, Pets and More Pets!

This month we will focus on what animals make good pets and why. Kids will learn about responsibility and the work required to take care of animals. Dress for the weather!

Pk-K - Tuesdays - 10th, 17th and 24th

1st and 2nd grade - Wednesdays - 11th, 18th and 25th

3rd through 6th grade - Thursdays - 12th, 19th and 26th

Cost: \$40 members, \$50 non-members

Time: 3:45pm - 5:00pm

We encourage everyone to register with Community Pass.

To register online please go to:

<https://register.communitypass.net/Closter>

You will be taken to Community Pass, our online registration and payment system.

If you must register in person, please call Marc Gussen at (201) 750-2778.



Closter Nature Center Help Wanted!

Volunteer Opportunities at the Closter Nature Center:

Forest Stewardship (Volunteer)

Trail Maintainer(s) (Volunteer)

For more information please go to

www.closternaturecenter.org

and look under the "Get Involved" section.

A great chance to get out and about in Nature!

CNC Month By Month:

March 15th @ 3pm Meet the Animals of the Nature Center

April 15th @ 7pm Invasive/Native Plants Lecture

April 19th Soup Supper, 5-7 PM

May 12, 7 PM, Annual Meeting, plus:

Forest Stewardship/Native Species Preserve Lecture

May Bird Walk

June Summer Hike

June 7th Pond Celebration

June 29 to August 27: SUMMER PROGRAM!



COMING SOON: *The Soup Supper on April 19th*

Please consider joining us for this annual fundraiser either by making a soup or joining us for dinner!

AND WATCH FOR: *Summer Program for Children*: June 29th through August 27th

March is Membership Renewal Time:

The money raised when you join or renew your membership in the Closter Nature Center helps to support our many educational programs, as well as everything from worms for our teaching animals to keeping the lights on in our cabin! Membership is renewable on an annual, rolling basis.

FOR THOSE NOT ON COMMUNITY PASS:

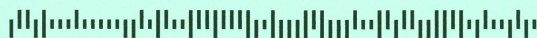
1. Please go to our website, www.closternaturecenter.org to renew online.
2. For those not online watch your "snail mail" for our annual renewal envelope.



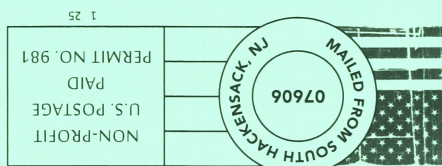
Members on **Community Pass** will automatically be notified by email on the anniversary of your membership date.

What exactly is the Closter Nature Center?

It is 136 acres of ponds, brooks, meadows and forests in the heart of Closter. It is a series of community happenings: group walks in the woods, evening family programs, and year-round classes for young people. It is individuals hiking, fishing, picnicking, birdwatching, and exploring the natural world. Perhaps most importantly, the Closter Nature Center is an idea in the minds of the people of the community about the kind of place in which they want to live. Tell a friend!



The Han Family
Or Current Resident
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"Keeping Closter Green"

Closter Nature Center
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Closter, NJ 07624

