

THE CLOSTER NATURE CENTER

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

By the pond on Ruckman Road

Activities and Events: December 2022

Full Moon Hike Friday, December 9th at 7:00 pm (Family Program)

Come enjoy an evening at the Closter Nature Center under the glow of the full moon. We will look and listen for the nocturnal animals that live there. Weather permitting, we will have a fire and roast marshmallows. Please dress for the weather.

\$5 for Members/ \$10 for Non-Members

Register (listed under Adult/Community Programs): <https://register.communitypass.net/Closter>

Closter Nature Center members receive discounts on classes, events, and other incentives. Join or renew your membership today

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

December After-School Nature Programs

"The Coming of Winter"

Explore the forest and pond as they change from fall to winter.

Mondays - December 5th, 12th, and 19th

1st - 3rd grade - 3:45 - 5:00 pm

Tuesdays - December 6th, 13th, and 20th

Pre-K 4 - Kindergarten - 3:45 - 5:00pm

Wednesdays - December 7th, 14th, and 21st

1st - 3rd grade - 3:45 - 5:00 pm

Thursdays - December 8th, 15th, and 22nd

4th - 6th grade - 3:45 - 5:00 pm

\$75/ 3-week program for Members - \$90/3-week program for Non-members

To register please go to: <https://register.communitypass.net/Closter>, and you will be taken to Community Pass, our online registration and payment system.

If you have any questions, please call Naturalist Marc Gussen at (201) 750-2778 or email programdirector@closternaturecenter.org

December Holiday Break Nature Program

Need something fun and educational for the kids to do during the holiday break? We'll have four days of nature exploration and discovery here at the Closter Nature Center

Monday December 26th - 29th

9:00 am - 10:30 am 1st - 3rd grade
11:00 am - 12:00 pm PreK 4- Kindergarten
1:00 pm - 2:30 pm 4th - 6th grade
3:00 pm - 4:30 pm 1st - 3rd grade

PreK 4- Kindergarten \$80 for Members / \$100 Non-members
1st to 6th Grade \$100 Members / \$120 Non-members

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Cute Kid's Quote:

A first grader in our after-school program walked up to me with a leaf and said, "it's from a sweet gum tree." I responded with "you're right; how did you know that?" she nonchalantly replied "my other bug school." Of all of the things that Nature Center gets called, I think I like "Bug School" the best!

**Education programming currently supported with
a generous grant from Rockland Electric.**

Naturalist's Notes:

Fall is slowly coming to an end, and everything in nature is readying for winter. Plants are closing up shop, migrants are leaving, forest residents are prepping to sleep or stick it out, and we are here to enjoy it all. Late fall is probably my favorite time to be in the woods. Deep breaths of cool autumn air, the sound of crunching leaves under my feet, and that magical fall smell of the forest are just some of the reasons to take a hike in December. With the leaves off the trees, visibility is increased and you would be amazed at the number of last year's nests that are visible now. Animal watching reaches new levels, since seeing birds of all kinds and mammals is easy without leaves blocking your view. The sounds of the forest are enhanced as well. I am always amazed at how far the sounds of woodpeckers can travel in a leafless forest. It's not just the loud and obvious, but the soft sounds of squirrels' claws on the bark of a tree as they scurry up to safety, and the footsteps of deer traipsing along can finally be heard. As the temperature drops and the days shorten, and we are often feeling trapped inside, let's

not forget what a great time it is to be outside...See you on the trails, Marc Gussen,
Naturalist

CNC Month By Month:

DECEMBER

Week of December 5 After-School Nature Program starts

December – 9 at 7 PM “Full Moon Hike” **Family Program**

December 26- 29 Holiday Break Nature Program- Naturalist Marc Gussen