

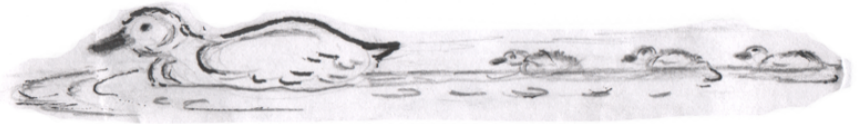
# CLOSTER NATURE CENTER NEWS

P.O. BOX 80, CLOSTER NJ 07624 [closternaturecenter.org](http://closternaturecenter.org)

By the pond on Ruckman Road

**SEPTEMBER, 2024 Programs**

## Music by the Garden:



### September 15<sup>th</sup> at Buzzoni Park

“Music by the Pond” time and venue will be changed for September only!

Please join us for “**Music by the Garden**” - a Buzzoni Park celebration, and ribbon cutting for the Pollinator Garden. Time and further details coming soon!

## **CNC After-School Programs This Autumn! 12-Week Session: Fall, 2024...September 10 to December 19**

### **Come join Nature Marc for a Season of Nature Fun and Science**

Enroll your child in a semester of discovery with our After-School Nature Classes! Secure their spot for a comprehensive 12-week journey into nature. **Sign up today and get ready for an adventure in learning!**

**Tuesdays-** Pre-K4 and Kindergarten

**Wednesdays-** 1st- 3rd grades

**Thursdays-** 4th-6th grades

**Member fee:** \$270 for 12-weeks

**Non- Member fee:** \$315 for 12 -weeks

Classes are limited to 12 children maximum

**6-week sessions are also available**

Member Fee: \$150. For 6-weeks

Non-Member fee: \$175 for 6-weeks

For more information, visit our website at [www.closternaturecenter.org](http://www.closternaturecenter.org) or sign-up directly on Community Pass: <https://register.communitypass.net/closter>.

## **Designing and Planting With Native Plants: Creating a Native Habitat....Wednesday, September 25th, at 7 PM**

**Presented by Elaine Silverstein, Urban Naturalist**

What is a habitat? How can home owners mimic nature by creating a native habitat on their properties? This practical workshop takes viewers step-by-step through planning, designing, installing and maintaining a beautiful, wildlife friendly habitat garden.

Admission is Free! Please consider donating to help us continue to provide programs like these

Please register your interest in attending on the event page at [closternaturecenter.org](http://closternaturecenter.org)

## SAVE THE DATE: The First Annual Closter Nature Center Hike-a-Thon!

Get ready for an adventure and a chance to support the Closter Nature Center with our upcoming hike-a-thon! Whether you're flying solo or joining forces with friends, your participation helps us raise crucial funds and awareness. Dive into nature, secure sponsorships, and enjoy the great outdoors for a noble cause. Our fundraising is open to registrations and donations at [go.rallyup.com/cnc-hikeathon](http://go.rallyup.com/cnc-hikeathon). Mark your calendars for the virtual launch on **October 11th**, leading up to the main event—a group hike on **November 2nd, from 9 am to 1 pm**. For more information on how to be a part of this exciting journey, check out our fundraising page. Let's hit the trails for the Nature Center!

### Naturalist's Notes:

One of the things I look forward to most when it comes to summer is conducting the Closter Nature Center's summer program. It is a chance to not only teach the kids of our community about our natural world, but most importantly, to get them outside. Far too many kids never, or very rarely, get outside and have an opportunity to explore nature. I am often asked by parents how long the hikes are, or how much time will the kids be outside, because parents want to make sure that their children will get that needed exposure.

It has been confirmed over and over that being outside and involved with the natural world is essential for physical and psychological health. Exercise and fresh air are two obvious examples of the outdoors' myriad benefits, and there are still many that are unknown.

The fact that being active outdoors is in our best interests leads us to the importance of instilling in our children a comfort level with being outdoors, and better yet, a real love for the outdoors. Many parents who were concerned that the hikes might be too much for their kids are the same ones who, at the end of the week when class is over, are prodded by their child to do a hike, or take a quick walk around the pond. Once the fire

gets started and that passion builds, it paves the way for a lifetime of benefits. I cherish the fact that I am there for such an important part in the development of the children of our community.

I look forward to many great summers in the future, and would like to thank everyone who makes it possible.

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

### **Cute Kid's Quote:**

While a group of kindergarteners were getting dropped off at the Nature Center, I asked some of the parents, "What do grown-ups do all day?"

One of the moms responded with, "I am going to the gym, and then to work."

A boy from our class came back with, "Why don't you just work at the gym?"