



MARCH 2021

ACTIVITY CALENDAR

NATURE PROGRAMS



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. [Click here](#) to register.

Friday, March 12
7 - 8:30 a.m.

ALL AGES

- Free, registration required
- Mercer County Park Marina

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. [Click here](#) to register.

Tuesdays &
Wednesdays through
March from 1-3 p.m.

Teens & Adults

- Free, registration required
- Various park locations

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. [Click here](#) to register.

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

Teens & Adults

- Free, registration required
- Watson House at Roebling Park

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. [Click here](#) to register.

Sunday, March 14 &
Friday, March 26 from
1-3 p.m.

ALL AGES

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

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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.

[Click here](#) to register.

Thursday, March 18 & 25
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Teens & Adults

- Spring Lake at Roebling Park
- \$5 per person, \$20 per family

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.

[Click here](#) to register.

Thursday, March 25
8:30 - 10:30 a.m.

Teens & Adults

- Spring Lake at Roebling Park

Marsh Clean-up

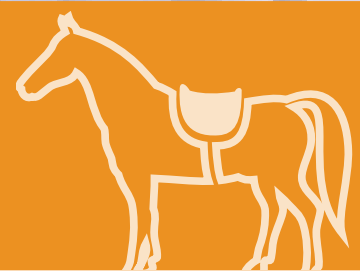
Marshes naturally filter the water that drains through them, but sometimes they need a little help from their friends – you! Join us for this Spring litter pick. Gloves, long sleeves and pants recommended. Masks and social distancing will be mandatory. Cosponsors: AmeriCorps Watershed Ambassador Program, Friends for the Abbott Marshlands, Mercer County Park Commission. Masks required. [Click here](#) to register.

Saturday, March 27
9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

ALL AGES

- Spring Lake at Roebling Park

MERCER COUNTY STABLES



Pony Rides

Just a good old fashioned pony ride! The pony will be led by Mercer Stables' staff in our riding ring, ten minutes rides. Reservation required. Call (609) 730-9059.

Ongoing

2 - 7 years old

\$15 per ride

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MARCH 2021 ACTIVITY CALENDAR

MERCER COUNTY STABLES (continued)

English Riding Lessons

Lessons are offered for New, Beginner, and Advanced Riders. Maximum weight limit of 200 lbs. March will be the last month of open lessons then we go back to our online registration process. Reservation required.
[Click here for more information.](#)

Weekdays: 9 a.m.-6 p.m. **6 years old**
Saturdays: 1 p.m.-3 p.m. **to Adult**

\$45 per lesson

Trail Riding

March 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 March'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.
[Click here for more information.](#)

Ongoing **10 years old**
 to Adult

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

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.
[Click here for more information.](#)

By Appointment Only **12 years old to Adult**

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

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MARCH 2021 ACTIVITY CALENDAR

HOWELL LIVING HISTORY FARM



Preschool Fridays on the Farm

Preschool Fridays on the Farm. Join farm staff for a unique, age-appropriate, hour-long outdoor program. We will be answering the question, "Where does maple syrup come from?" as we tap a tree and walk through the sugar house. Each participant will take home a sample of Howell Farm maple syrup! Masks, social distancing, and adult attendance required. Don't forget to dress for weather. [Click here](#) to register.

Friday, March 5 & 12
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Ages 1 - 5

- \$10 per person (adults and children ages 1+)
- For groups of 5-10, including adults
- In the event we do not reach our group minimum of 5, we will work with registrants to reschedule for another date.

Workhorse Rides

In bygone days, it wasn't uncommon for a farm boy or girl to hitch a ride on the back of a big draft horse while it was being driven back to the barn after a day working in the fields.

During this program, kids 5 - 12 will learn the differences between draft, saddle and carriage horses when they climb aboard a fully harnessed workhorse for a ride down the lane...after, that is, they help farmers with barn chores like bedding stalls, filling water troughs, and making feed. [Click here](#) for more information.

Saturday, March 6
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

ALL AGES

Please note that winter 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.

Visit from the Horse Doctor, Dentist & Shoer

Shots, worming medicine, dental exams, and hoof trimming are in store for Howell Farm's six workhorses when the veterinarian, dentist, and farrier come for their spring visit. Join them in the barns where they will be at work all day ensuring that horses, sheep, chickens, and farm cat Bushy are fit and ready for spring. Visitors can listen to a horse's heart through a stethoscope, watch an equine dentist at work, and learn about old and new veterinary instruments and techniques. [Click here](#) for more information.

Saturday, March 13
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

ALL AGES

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MARCH 2021 ACTIVITY CALENDAR

HOWELL FARM (continued)

Sawmilling & Tree Planting

Barn beams, siding, and floorboards for horse stalls will be the order of the day when logger-sawyer Scott Stevens makes his annual stop at Howell Farm—a visit reminiscent of days when contractors with portable engines and mills came through Pleasant Valley to help farmers cut lumber from trees growing in their woodlots.

During the day there will be opportunities for visitors to help roll logs to the mill with logging tools, cut firewood for the kitchen stove, make pegs for use in barn framing, and plant replacement trees in the farm's woodlot. Visitors can also learn about plans to restore and use the farm's steam-powered sawmill.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Lambing

Will a lamb be born on 'lambing day'? It has happened before, but not according to anyone's timing but the ewes'. Lambing season lasts for several weeks, and whether you're here to welcome a new arrival or not, you will find much to see and learn about in the barn where sheep spend much of the winter.

On this day, you will see new lambs, meet expectant ewes, and learn all about the farm's flock of period Romney-Suffolk sheep. Other signs of spring are in the air: horses are beginning to shed their winter coats, bees are flying in search of early nectar, and if it's not too windy, farmers will likely be out spreading manure or plowing the fields. [Click here](#) for more information.

Saturday, March 20
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

ALL AGES

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Saturday, March 27
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

ALL AGES

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ICE SKATING CENTER



Public Skate

Ongoing

ALL AGES

The Ice Skating Center is open with limited capacity. Patrons must bring their own ice skates as rentals have been temporarily discontinued. [Click here](#) for more information.

[MORE >](#)



MARCH 2020 ACTIVITY CALENDAR

TENNIS CENTER

Open Indoor Tennis

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. [Click here](#) for COVID-19 restrictions.

Ongoing

ALL AGES

Operating under Phase 3 rules and regulations.

2021 Summer Tennis League

Registration for the 2021 Mercer County Summer Tennis League will be held online beginning Saturday, Feb. 27 at 8 a.m. 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. [Click here](#) to register. [Click here](#) for COVID-19 restrictions.

Ongoing

ALL AGES

Operating under Phase 3 rules and regulations.

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. [Click here](#) for more information.

Ongoing
Thursdays - Sundays
10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

ALL AGES

Free, self-guided tours.