

## Burlington County Park System Autumn 2021 Nature programs

### **September 7 – 1:00 PM HEALTHY HIKE, Willingboro Lakes**

Did you know that getting out in nature for as little as half an hour a week can help improve your overall mood as well as reduce blood pressure? Come hike along with Naturalist Kate Forte while learning about the varying habitats within the parks. **Maximum attendance limits are enforced.** [Register online.](#)

### **September 8 & 29 - SPECIES SPOTLIGHT**

Learn about various species that call Burlington County Parks home! Every other Wednesday, Naturalist Kate will post a new video on our [Nature Programs](#) Page that highlights a local species to better understand their behaviors, natural history and/or significance in the environment. This month will focus on monarch butterflies and eastern cottontails.

### **September 14, 9:00 AM - TUESDAY TALK, Crystal Lake – Animal Communication**

A series of nature walks led by Naturalist Jen Bulava on select Tuesdays and Fridays. This program will repeat on Friday September 17. This week is part 1 of a new 3-part series called “Communication in Nature.” Part 1 focuses on communication among animal species. Birds, frogs, mammals, and certain insects have both vocal and non-vocal means of exchanging vital information. What are they saying to each other and why? New research has shed light on this and so much more! (Part 2: Plant-Animal Communication on Oct 5 & 8, Part 3: Plant-Plant Communication on Oct 19 & 22). **Maximum attendance limits are enforced.** [Register online.](#)

### **September 16, 6:00 PM – BEAVER WATCH, Boundary Creek**

Join Naturalist Kate Forte on a search for beavers and signs they may leave behind. While on a walk, learn about a beaver’s behavior, why they are considered a keystone species, and other interesting facts that make them so unique! **Maximum attendance limits are enforced.** [Register online.](#)

### **September 17, 9:00 AM – FRIDAY FORUM, Crystal Lake – Animal Communication**

A series of nature walks led by Naturalist Jen Bulava on select Tuesdays and Fridays. This is a repeat of the Tuesday September 14 program. This week is part 1 of a new 3-part series called “Communication in Nature.” Part 1 focuses on communication among animal species. Birds, frogs, mammals, and certain insects have both vocal and non-vocal means of exchanging vital information. What are they saying to each other and why? New research has shed light on this and so much more! (Part 2: Plant-Animal Communication on Oct 5 & 8, Part 3: Plant-Plant Communication on Oct 19 & 22). **Maximum attendance limits are enforced.** [Register online.](#)

### **September 22, 6:00 PM – CREPUSCULAR CREATURES, Amico Island**

Explore our parks while enjoying the sunset! Join Naturalist Kate Forte on a hike to learn about the crepuscular animals that utilize this time of the evening to hunt and gather food. See for yourself which animals are active and why. **Maximum attendance limits are enforced.** [Register online.](#)

### **September 25, 9:00 AM - PARK CLEANUP, Amico Island**

Help keep our environment clean and green! Participate in cleaning up litter that has made its way into this park. Bags, gloves, and grabbers will be provided. Please bring your own water and snacks, if needed. Masks will be required in the registration and supplies area as well as in areas where social distancing cannot be maintained. Masks will not be provided, please bring your own. If you need community service hours, please register by 4PM Friday Sept 24. To register, email [cleancomm@co.burlington.nj.us](mailto:cleancomm@co.burlington.nj.us)

### **September 30, 7:30 AM – BIRDING BEFORE BREAKFAST, Long Bridge Park**

Take advantage of the early morning to discover the local birds that live in the parks. Bring a pair of binoculars and join Naturalist Kate on this morning adventure. All levels of birding experience are welcome, so don't be discouraged if you are a beginner! **Maximum attendance limits are enforced.** [Register online.](#)

**October 5, 9:00 AM - TUESDAY TALK, Kinkora Trail – Plant-Animal Communication**

A series of nature walks led by Naturalist Jen Bulava on select Tuesdays and Fridays. This program will repeat on Friday October 8. This week is part 2 of a new 3-part series called "Communication in Nature." Part 2 focuses on communication between plants and animal species. Plants have incredible methods of signaling to the animals they depend upon for survival. Participants will see examples of these methods as they walk along the Kinkora Trail. (Part 3 on Plant-Plant Communication continues on Oct 19 & 22). **Maximum attendance limits are enforced.** [Register online.](#)

**October 6, 9:30 AM – WILDLIFE WATCH, Smith's Woods**

Observe and explore the diversity of the animal kingdom in our park system! Find out where certain animals take shelter and what tools they use to do so. Grab your binoculars and cameras to see what we may find! **Maximum attendance limits are enforced.** [Register online.](#)

**October 8, 9:00 AM – FRIDAY FORUM, Kinkora Trail – Plant-Animal Communication**

A series of nature walks led by Naturalist Jen Bulava on select Tuesdays and Fridays. This is a repeat of the Tuesday October 5 program. This week is part 2 of a new 3-part series called "Communication in Nature." Part 2 focuses on communication between plants and animal species. Plants have incredible ways of signaling to the animals they depend upon for survival. Participants will see examples of these methods as they walk along the Kinkora Trail. (Part 3 on Plant-Plant Communication continues on Oct 19 & 22). **Maximum attendance limits are enforced.** [Register online.](#)

**October 9, 9:00 AM – WORLD MIGRATORY BIRD DAY, multiple parks**

Join us to celebrate World Migratory Bird Day on October 9! We will look for migratory birds in the County parks situated along Creek Rd: Rancocas Pointe Trail – Boundary Creek – Laurel Run. By participating in birding in what is also Cornell's Global Bird Weekend, you can be a part of the global team of people around the world helping to set a new record for birds documented in one weekend! **Maximum attendance limits are enforced. Binoculars and registration required.** [Register online.](#)

**October 13 & 27 - SPECIES SPOTLIGHT**

Learn about various species that call Burlington County Parks home! Every other Wednesday, Naturalist Kate will post a new video on our [Nature Programs](#) Page that highlights a local species to better understand their behaviors, natural history and/or significance in the environment. This month will focus on white-breasted nuthatches and big brown bats.

**October 14, BEAVER WATCH – 5:00 PM Rancocas Pointe Trail**

Join Naturalist Kate Forte on a search for beavers and signs they may leave behind. While on a walk, learn about a beaver's behavior and why they are considered a keystone species! **Maximum attendance limits are enforced.** [Register online.](#)

**October 19, 10:00 AM - TUESDAY TALK, Smithville Park – Plant-Plant Communication**

A series of nature walks led by Naturalist Jen Bulava on select Tuesdays and Fridays. This program will repeat on Friday October 22. This week is part 3 of a new 3-part series called "Communication in Nature." Part 3 focuses on communication among plant species. Plants, especially trees, have incredible methods of "talking" using both the wind and underground networks or "wood wide web". While hiking the ravine trail through beautiful autumn foliage, participants will learn about the information plants can exchange and how different species help each other. **Maximum attendance limits are enforced.** [Register online.](#)

**October 20, 6:30PM – MOONLIT WALK, Pennington Park**

Join Naturalist Kate Forte on a moonlit walk through the park. Look and listen for signs of nocturnal animals while also gazing at the stars! **Maximum attendance limits are enforced.** [Register online.](#)

**October 22, 10:00 AM – FRIDAY FORUM, Smithville Park – Plant-Plant Communication**

A series of nature walks led by Naturalist Jen Bulava on select Tuesdays and Fridays. This is a repeat of the Tuesday October 19 program. This week is part 3 of a new 3-part series called “Communication in Nature.” Part 3 focuses on communication among plant species. Plants, especially trees, have incredible methods of “talking” using both the wind and underground networks or “wood wide web”. While hiking the ravine trail through beautiful autumn foliage, participants will learn about the information plants can exchange and how different species help each other. **Maximum attendance limits are enforced.** [Register online.](#)

**October 23, 9:00 AM - PARK CLEANUP, Pennington Park and Newton’s Landing Trail**

Help keep our environment clean and green! Participate in cleaning up litter that has made its way into this park. Bags, gloves, and grabbers will be provided. Please bring your own water and snacks, if needed. Masks will be required in the registration and supplies area as well as in areas where social distancing cannot be maintained. Masks will not be provided, please bring your own. If you need community service hours, please register by 4PM Friday October 22. To register, email [cleancomm@co.burlington.nj.us](mailto:cleancomm@co.burlington.nj.us)

**October 23, 11:00 AM – FALL FOLIAGE HIKE, Smithville Park**

Enjoy the fall weather and take a hike with Naturalist Kate to learn about why trees’ leaves change colors when the temperatures drop. Appreciate the incredible diversity of tree species at Smithville Park while admiring the beautiful colors of their fall foliage. [Register online](#)

**November 4 – 11:00 AM HEALTHY HIKE, Newton’s Landing Trail**

Did you know that getting out in nature for as little as half an hour a week can help improve your overall mood as well as reduce blood pressure? Come hike along with Naturalist Kate Forte while learning about the varying habitats within the parks. [Register online.](#)

**November 6, 9:00 AM - PARK CLEANUP, Willingboro Lakes Park**

Help keep our environment clean and green! Participate in cleaning up litter that has made its way into this park. Bags, gloves, and grabbers will be provided. Please bring your own water and snacks, if needed. Masks will be required in the registration and supplies area as well as in areas where social distancing cannot be maintained. Masks will not be provided, please bring your own. If you need community service hours, please register by 4PM Friday Nov 5. To register, email [cleancomm@co.burlington.nj.us](mailto:cleancomm@co.burlington.nj.us)

**November 8, 1:00 PM – WILDLIFE WATCH, RSP Mount Laurel**

Observe and explore the diversity of the animal kingdom in our park system! Find out where certain animals take shelter and what tools they use to do so. Grab your binoculars and cameras to see what we may find! [Register online.](#)

**November 10 & 24 - SPECIES SPOTLIGHT**

Learn about various species that call Burlington County Parks home! Every other Wednesday, Naturalist Kate will post a new video on our [Nature Programs](#) Page that highlights a local species to better understand their behaviors, natural history and/or significance in the environment. This month will focus on red-tailed hawks and turkey tail mushrooms.

**November 16, 10:00 AM - TUESDAY TALK, Boundary Creek**

A series of nature walks led by Naturalist Jen Bulava on select Tuesdays and Fridays. This program will repeat on Friday November 19. Boundary Creek’s fields and wetlands are great places to look for hawks and early migratory birds arriving from the north for the winter. **Maximum attendance limits are enforced.** [Register online.](#)

**November 19, 10:00 AM – FRIDAY FORUM, Boundary Creek**

A series of nature walks led by Naturalist Jen Bulava on select Tuesdays and Fridays. This is a repeat of the Tuesday November 16 program. Boundary Creek’s fields and wetlands are great places to look for hawks and early migratory birds arriving from the north for the winter. **Maximum attendance limits are enforced.** [Register online.](#)

**November 19, 4:00 PM – CREPUSCULAR CREATURES, Smithville Park**

Explore our parks while enjoying the sunset! Join Naturalist Kate Forte on a hike to learn about the crepuscular animals that utilize this time of the evening to hunt and gather food. See for yourself which animals are active and why. **Maximum attendance limits are enforced.** [Register online.](#)

**November 30, 11:00 AM – ANIMAL ADAPTATIONS, Willingboro Lakes**

Learn about the unique strategies that local wildlife and plants use when adapting to the environment around them. From stashing food away in hiding spots to burying beneath the frost line, learn how these species survive through the winter. Please dress appropriately and wear proper hiking shoes. [Register online.](#)