



Spring 2018

THE FROGHORN

www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org

It's the most wonderful time of the year...



Summer Camp 2018

Kids belong outside in the summertime! At SLNC we ditch the screens and pick up nets. It's not all about science though; we also do art, photography, creative writing, and more. So whether your child loves insects, sports, or painting, this camp is for them!

Full Day Camp (ages 6-14):
9 one-week sessions, Mon.-Fri.
June 25th– August 24th
9:00am-4:00pm
(extended care available)

Preschool Camp (ages 4-5):
2 one-week, half-day sessions
June 9-13th and August 20-24th
9:00am-12:00pm

Counselors in Training (CIT's):
Must be 15 or older and commit to 2 full weeks of camp

Contact for Full Day Camp/CIT's:
Kassandra Archer
kaarcher@buckscounty.org
267-880-5024

Contact for Preschool Camp:
PattiAnn Cutter
pacutter@buckscounty.org
267-880-5022

- New for 2018:**
- **Child-sized kayaks**– We have purchased a set of children's kayaks to accommodate all campers!
 - **More choice activities**– Campers will get to choose between 5 different activities, two times a day!
 - **New choice activities**– We will be adding new activities based on camper feedback from last summer, and keeping the ones they loved!
 - **Additional staff**–there will be 3 counselors in addition to Miss. Kass, 5 CIT's per week, and 2 new interns!
 - **Trails**– We have a new trail to explore which goes all the way around Silver Lake!
 - **Finder's Discount**– Save money by referring your friends! Receive 5% off of your total for every new camper that you refer to SLNC (new camper must sign up for at least 1 week of full day camp)!

Open House Dates:
March 7th- 6-8pm
and
March 18th- 2-4pm




White House Chef Tour
Saturday, April 28
1 pm - 5 pm

Silver Lake Nature Center Proudly Presents

The White House Chef Tour

On Saturday April 28, 2018, The White House Chefs will be at Silver Lake Nature Center! They will demonstrate their skills preparing White House recipes as they answer questions and share stories & mementos collected during their service to five former presidents.
Prior to the cooking demonstration, guests will be treated to appetizers and beverages from local restaurants. There will be opportunities to purchase a chance to win a seat at the Chef's Table, as well as other great prizes. The price is \$35 per person. Seating is limited, register early at www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org or by calling 215-785-1177

Proceeds benefit the Friends of Silver Lake Nature Center.

The Froghorn

This Newsletter is published quarterly by the Friends of Silver Lake Nature Center for the Silver Lake Nature Center, a facility of the Bucks County Parks and Recreation Department.

CONTACT US

Silver Lake Nature Center

1306 Bath Road

Bristol, Pa 19007

215 785-1177

SilverLakeNatureCenter@buckscounty.org

www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org

NATURE CENTER HOURS

Tuesday - Saturday, 10 am - 5 pm

Sunday- 12 pm 5pm

Monday- Closed

Trails are open daily from Sunrise to Sunset

STAFF

Jerry Kozlansky, Director/Naturalist

PattiAnn Cutter, Assistant Director/Naturalist

Arden Williams, Volunteer Coordinator/
Administrative Assistant

Danielle Morrisey, Office Manager/
Earthship Steward

Kassandra Archer, Summer Camp Director /
Environmental Educator

The Bucks County Department of Parks

and Recreation does not discriminate on the basis of disabilities in its programs, activities, and facilities.



Our Mission:

The Silver Lake Nature Center inspires connections with nature for people of all ages, interests, and abilities through education, recreation, preservation, research, and advocacy.

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Have questions about the Earthship?
Contact Danielle Morrisey at dmmorrisey@buckscounty.org

Earthship - The Next Chapter!

Steward's Log, Earth-date January 16, 2018.

SLNC Earthship (1306 Bath Road, Bristol PA, USA- Earth)

The Staff and Volunteer crew and myself have been working steadily to make improvements to the Earthship here at Silver Lake Nature Center. The outdoor fire place has been completed, and the grounds have been undergoing a great transformation.

Over the last year we have been using the building to host educational workshops for the public and school groups. The Earthship has hosted meetings for the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary and drum making workshops with Rainbows of Healing, as well as the PA Master Naturalist Classes and the Nature Book Club which meets monthly.

The Staff and Crew have even bigger plans for the Earthship in 2018. Starting in March, we will be running *Evenings at the Earthship*. These workshops will be geared toward adult participants and cover a variety of topics from edible plants to hands-on creative projects. We will also be hosting Rainbows of Healing once again for another drum making workshop. Nature Book Club, facilitated by Lee Roach, PA Master Naturalist, will continue to meet monthly.

Earthship Steward's Log, Supplemental- For additional information about programs being held at the Earthship, please see our event calendar at <http://silverlakenaturecenter.org/events/month/>



Evenings at The Earthship

WEDNESDAY 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Held on the 2nd Thursday of each month, these unique workshops are geared for adults and cover a variety of topics from edible plants to hands-on creative projects

Current Workshops

- Essential Oils ----- March 8
- Seed Starting ----- April 12
- Mushroom Hike w/ Joe @ Noble Earth ---- May 10
- Herbal Tea ----- June 14
- Crystal Terrariums w/ Rainbows of Healing -- July 12
- Natural Dyes ----- August 9

\$12-\$15 for most workshops

Pre Registration is REQUIRED

For more details contact Silver Lake Nature Center

www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org





The January cold was biting at our faces as I led this intrepid group of young students through the pine forest. The air was bright and bitter while the temperature had not risen above freezing for over a week. The youngsters and I were following the paw prints a Red Fox had left in the freshly fallen snow. The tracks led us

through the fragrant stand of white pines out into the open parking area of Silver Lake. What greeted us at this time was not the Red Fox but two plump grey squirrels, one holding an aluminum beverage can in its mouth. The students wanted to investigate to find if the can might be frozen to the squirrel so they hurried after the furry rodent as it bounded into the brush. The animal released the can, and what now had increased to three squirrels, scampered up the slim trees.

The squirrels eyed us inquisitively as we took the can to the dumpster to dispose of it properly. The group squealed loudly as another squirrel popped up from inside the dumpster clutching a water bottle in its teeth! We were left standing cold and stunned in the snow as the rodent bounded away into the briar bushes. This time the children insisted we quietly follow the animal to learn of its intention with this item and unravel the mystery. We ignored the cold as we crawled through this dense briar patch. The thorns tugged and pulled at our clothing as we waded through this tangle of barbs. As we peered through the winter vegetation, a small gnawing sound could be heard. Our eyes became fixed on this grey squirrel that was tucked in the safety of the briars chewing the cap of the water bottle to get to the small amount of water inside! "Why" begged the group, "Why would the fuzzy squirrels do that?" "I got it" yelled a small girl whose face could not be seen beneath her scarf, "All the other water is frozen!"

We had discovered a small population of squirrels that, when all natural water is frozen, crawl into this dumpster and choose containers warmed by the sun, carry them into the woods and eventually drink the melted liquid inside. This was a great example of animal adaptation and a fantastic find for our wilderness adventure. As we slipped through the forest of maple and cherry trees on our way back to the nature center and hot chocolate, we discussed how adaptable animals can be around human habitation. We also decided, because of the behavior, to have a litter clean up in that section of woods when the cold snap was over!

Be sure to celebrate National Squirrel Appreciation Day every year on January 21st spending some time engaging with the world of wildlife!



Friends of Silver Lake Nature Center

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Bucks County Department of

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Calendar of Events

March 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Yoga 7:30pm	2 Full Moon Hike 7pm- 8:30pm	3 Volunteer Work Day 9 am - 2 pm
4	5	6	7 Summer Camp Open House 6pm- 8pm	8 Evenings @ Earthship <i>Essential Oils</i> 6:30pm- 8pm Yoga 7:30pm	9	10 Wild Animal Signs in the Woods 1pm- 2:30
11	12 Focal Planes 7pm	13	14 Artists of Bristol 7pm	15 Yoga 7:30pm	16	17 Leprechaun Hike 1pm- 2:30pm
18 Summer Camp Open House 2pm - 4pm	19 WCU Harps 6pm	20 Summer Camp Registration OPEN!	21	22 Yoga 7:30pm	23	24 Annual Volunteer Recognition 10am - 12pm Natural Egg Dyeing 1pm - 2:30pm
25 Medicine Drum Workshop w/ Rainbows of Healing 11am - 5pm	26 Focal Planes 7pm	27	28 Del River Fishermen's Assoc 7pm	29 Kids' Nature Days 9am - 4pm Nature Book Club 6pm Yoga 7:30pm	30 Kids' Nature-Days 9am - 4pm	31 Signs of Spring 1pm- 2:30pm

April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 Homeschool Enrichment -Spring Session Begins	4 Summer Camp Registration OPEN!	5 Yoga 7:30pm	6 Bird Seed Sale <i>Orders Due Today</i>	7 Nature Egg Hunt 1pm - 2:30pm
8	9 Focal Planes 7pm	10	11 Artists of Bristol 7pm	12 Evenings @ Earthship <i>Seed Starting</i> 6:30pm- 8pm Yoga 7:30pm	13	14 Bird Seed Sale Pick up 10am - 12pm Eat Your Weeds 1pm - 2:30pm
15	16 WCU Harps 6pm	17	18	19 Yoga 7:30pm	20	21 Earth Day Work Day 9am - 2pm Chris Westfall Earth Day Concert 7:30pm -9:30pm
22	23 Focal Planes 7pm	24	25 Del River Fishermen's Assoc 7pm	26 Nature Book Club 6pm Yoga 7:30pm	27	28 White House Chef Tour 1pm - 5pm
29	30					

May 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Summer Camp Registration OPEN!	2	3 Yoga 7:30pm	4	5 Volunteer Work Day
6	7	8	9 Artists of Bristol 7pm	10 Evenings @ Earthship <i>Mushrooms w Noble Earth</i> 6:30pm- 8pm Yoga 7:30pm	11 Bucks County Camp Out @ SLNC 6pm	12 Bucks County Camp Out @ SLNC ends 2pm North Am Bird Migration Count 5:30 am-6:30 pm
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 Frog Slog
20	21	22	23	24	25 Full Moon	26 Bugs & Slugs
27	28 Focal Planes 7pm	29	30 Del River Fishermen's Assoc 7pm	31 Nature Book Club 6pm Yoga 7:30pm		

New Members:

Amanda & John Birney
Mary Ellen Davis
Susan Kiernan
Barbara Milone
Anthony Salvitty
Marybeth & Kevin Shay
April Stenson
Ronald Thomas

Business Thank You:

La Stalla Restaurant, Newtown, PA
Calm Waters Coffee Roasters,
Bristol, PA
Hill Tender Carvings, Perkasio PA
Estee Lauder
Ann E Orlando (artwork donation)



Looking Ahead...

2018 Kayaking Series at Silver Lake Nature Center

All of us at Silver Lake Nature Center would like to extend a warm thank you to Wm. Roger Clark for having led our Kayaking Program for several years. Roger provided a top-notch program for all who participated! Last summer, Roger began the process of “passing the torch” (or shall we say, “kayak?”) to our new Kayak Leader, Melanie Pawlowski. Melanie co-led programs with Roger last year, and also ran them for our Summer Camp.

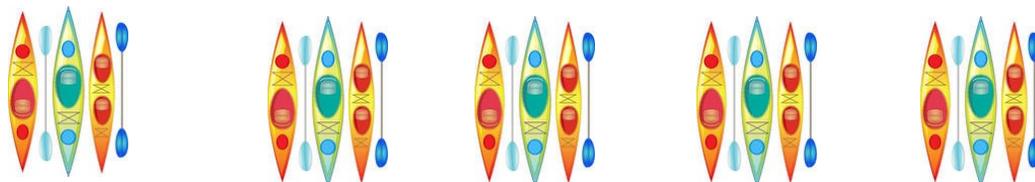
Continue to look out for Roger, though! If you did not already know, Roger is the Artist who painted the amazing mural on the front of the Visitors’ Building. This spring/summer/fall, Roger will be adorning our Kayak Garage (located near the SLNC Earthship) with more of his amazing Artwork. We are so happy that Roger will be bringing beauty and life to this otherwise drab building! Look out for updates about this on our website and social media outlets.

And, now, Silver Lake Nature Center is pleased to announce that Melanie Pawlowski, SLNC Summer Camp Counselor AND Kayaker Extraordinaire, will be leading our 2018 Kayaking Series!

Join Melanie on one of our many Kayaking Programs being offered this spring, summer, and fall! Programs include: Intro to Kayaking, Full Moon Kayaking, Kayak Fishing, and Birdwatching & Kayaking!

Visit www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org or call 215-785-1177 for descriptions/details and registration. Since space is very limited for these ‘sell out’ programs, pre-registration of at least 2 days prior to the program is required in order to participate.

From all of us here at Silver Lake Nature Center, we look forward to seeing you on the lake!



Family Fishing Day, September 8th

This *free* event is sponsored by the Delaware River Fishermen’s Association. Activities include learning about fish identification, fishing equipment and fishing techniques. Join us for a fun and informative morning! This event is free for the family but pre registration is required. Please register at 215 785 1177 or online at www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org and include the number of people who will be attending.

PA Master Naturalist Program, Fall 2018

This 10 week training program runs from September 11, 2018, through November 13, 2018. The Pennsylvania Master Naturalist program is a statewide partnership initiative that aims to connect people with their local ecosystems through intensive natural science training and local conservation service work. It’s goal is to develop a local corp of “master volunteers and service providers” to offer education, outreach and service dedicated to the understanding and management of natural areas within their communities. For more information on the program, please go to www.pamasternaturalist.org

Volunteer Opportunities

A Community Service Crafting Club

Are you tired of collecting things, but still want to craft?

Our crafting club meets the 3rd Monday of every month to make items that help other organizations fulfill their mission.

Come out and join us while earning volunteer hours for the Nature Center.

Pond and Garden maintenance

Donate an hour a week to help to maintain the areas around the ponds, which include weeding and mulching.

Trail maintenance

Donate an hour a week to help maintain the trails, which includes litter removal, weeding, and the trimming back of branches.

Volunteer of the Quarter

Jo'Ann Bruehl

Jo'Ann started at the Nature Center as a greeter in February of 2016. She is a retired art teacher and her experience with creating lesson plans has been a valuable asset to our Director as he tries to increase the number of nature programs and activities that the Center offers to the general public. Jo'Ann puts together the lesson plans for the 8-week Homeschool Enrichment Program that the Center offers. She researches the week's topic, then provides activities, worksheets, and talking points for the instructor of the class.

Jo'Ann is also the leader of the volunteer Community Crafting group. Her love of the arts and her passion for creating has helped this group to thrive. She reaches out to other organizations to see if there is a need for created donations. She also participates in the Nature Center's monthly book club and recently joined the Special Events committee that will be coordinating the White House Chef Tour event to be held at the Nature Center in April.

Many non-profit organizations are competing from the same source of local volunteers, and in that limited pool of people, there are talents of all kinds. It is refreshingly wonderful to know that there are volunteers like Jo'Ann who are willing to share their time and talents with multiple organizations.

Thank you Jo'Ann for generously sharing your time, talents, and resources!

Volunteer Accomplishments

This winter our Volunteer Work Day volunteers worked diligently to remove the leaves from around the building and HVAC units, maintain the pond areas, and they have started to blaze a new trail on the north side of the preserve.

Our Community Crafting volunteers have finished more quilts for the Quilts For Kids organization, made pumpkin centerpieces that were donated to the Delta Community Center as Halloween decorations, and made reindeer ornament kits for the Christ's Home organization. Through these projects, our volunteer crafters have learned how to quilt by reading various printed patterns, make a flower arrangement, and how to make holiday themed decorative tree ornaments.



Spring Programs and Activities

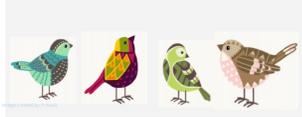
Kids' Nature Days "Spring is in the Air"

Thursday, March 29 and/or
Friday, March 30
9 am - 4 pm
Spend Spring Break tapping trees for syrup in the budding woods of Silver Lake! Your child will love to see what goes into making delicious maple syrup while exploring through the woods and participating in crafts and activities.

*\$50 for one day or \$90 for both,
Please pre-register by March 28.*

Bird Seed Sale Pick - Up

Saturday, April 14
10 am - 12 pm
Orders are due on April 6 and can be placed in person at the center, over the phone at 215 785 1177, or online at www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org



Bucks County Camp Out

Friday May, 11– Saturday, May 12
The first ever Bucks County Camp-out will provide families with a camping experience right here at the Silver Lake Nature Center!

*This is a **FREE** event made possible by a grant from **Visit Bucks County***

**Space is limited,
Pre- Registration is REQUIRED**

www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org or
215-785-1177



Scouting Programs & Opportunities

We offer all kinds of Girl and Boy Scout programs, including Flag Retirement Ceremonies, Badges, Journeys, Service/Volunteer Projects, and more!

Scouts can also enjoy night-time programs, such as Night Hikes and Sleepovers! Both programs include an indoor presentation focusing on nocturnal life, a walk on the trails (without flashlights), a campfire, a marshmallow roast, storytelling, and a sing-a-long.

We will also work with you to suit the needs of your group with such options as fire building, fire safety, skits, awards, and more.

Fun for Preschoolers

We offer a variety of Preschool programs. Some of the topics include: *Hibernation Happens; Ponds & Puddles; Frog Friends; Bugs & Beasties; Five Senses; Winter Wonders; and Spring Discovery.*

These programs are designed to educate children and increase their awareness about our natural world and can be conducted at our location or at local Preschools.



Celebrate at Silver Lake!!

Silver Lake Nature Center offers many party options for children (of all ages), as well as grownup birthday parties, bridal/baby showers, anniversaries, other special events, and meetings.

Different types of parties we offer include Day-time Parties, Night Hikes, Campfires, and Kayak trips. We'll work with you to find the right program for your event. Fees vary according to program.

Some of our themes are: Butterflies; Insects; Spiders; Frogs; Rabbits; Squirrels; Worms; Dinosaurs & Cousins; Tracks & Scat; and more. If there is a nature-related theme that you'd like, but it is not listed, please let us know, and we'll work with you to make that happen, too!!

For more information on our Scouting, Preschool or Elementary Education programs and/or to schedule a program, please visit our website at www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org and/or contact PattiAnn Cutter at pacutter@buckscounty.org or 267-880-5022.



Silver
Lake
Nature
Center

Silver Lake Nature Center

1306 Bath Road Bristol, Pa 19007

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On The Horizon



Silver
Lake
Nature
Center

Coming this May-

The Bucks County Camp Out!

The first ever Bucks County Camp-out will provide families with a camping experience right here at the Silver Lake Nature Center!

Set-up camp behind our Nature Center on Friday night, followed by a night hike and marshmallows beside the fire! In the morning, enjoy a camp breakfast. Then, head out for the day's activities.

Your whole family will enjoy their time outdoors with activities ranging from kayaking to shelter building!

This is a **FREE** event made possible by a grant from Visit Bucks County!

Space is limited, Pre-registration is **REQUIRED**
Find more info at www.SilverLakeNatureCenter.org or 215-785-1177

VISIT
BUCKS COUNTY
Pennsylvania

