

Hopewell Valley Come Outside and Play!



June 12-14, 2014

This Hopewell Valley community-wide event was established to increase awareness of nature and an appreciation of time spent outdoors. Families and community members are welcome to attend any of these activities.

Registration is required for some activities.

All activities are at no cost and open to all ages unless noted otherwise.

Outdoor Activities Abound!

Signs of Summer Walk

Date: Thursday, June 12 **Time:** 4-5:30 PM

Join the Stony-Brook Millstone Watershed Association Teacher-Naturalists at the Association's Pond House on Wargo Road to celebrate the coming of summer with a hike! We will venture onto the Reserve's newest trails, out to Mt. Rose property and back again to Wargo Pond. Wear comfortable shoes/sneakers - no sandals - and dress for the weather. Bring a water bottle and simple trail snack. Total distance approximately 2 miles. Open to ages 8 years through adults. All children must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required. Call 737-7592. **Location:** Stony-Brook Millstone Watershed Association's Pond House, 261 Wargo Road, Hopewell **Sponsor:** Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association

Outdoor Art Room

Date: Thursday, June 12 **Time:** 4:30-5:30PM

Join Art Sparks at Kunkel Park in Pennington for a chance to be part of a long, worldwide tradition of celebrating the beauty in nature reflected through the visual arts. Be inspired by the textures, colors and shapes in the natural world, and create a work of art combining traditional art materials with small objects found in nature. Open to all ages - children must be accompanied by an adult. Registration preferred! Call 737-3753. **Location:** Kunkel Park, King George Road, Pennington **Sponsors:** Hopewell Valley Arts Council, Art Sparks and Pennington Borough Parks & Recreation

Pond Study

Date: Thursday, June 12 **Time:** 4:15-5:30 PM

Ponds are an interesting habitat. Participants will use pond nets to collect and examine the various organisms that inhabit the Washington Crossing State Park pond. After a brief visit, all specimens will be released. Registration required. Call the Nature Center at 737-0609. Open to all ages - children must be accompanied by an adult. **Location:** Meet at the pond at the park service entrance on Church Road, Titusville. Call the number above for directions. **Sponsor:** Washington Crossing State Park Nature Center

Groom, Tack and Ride Activity 1

Date: Friday, June 13 **Time:** 8:45-10AM

The Mercer County Equestrian Center welcomes special needs children and their families, ages pre-school through middle school. Learn how to groom a horse and go for a pony ride! Specify accommodations needed to enjoy this beautiful morning! Limit 8 participants. Please arrive 5-10 minutes before your scheduled session. Registration required. Call 730-9059 or email ccardinal@mercercounty.org **Location:** Mercer County Equestrian Center, Federal City Road, Pennington **Sponsor:** Mercer County Equestrian Center

Butterfly Walk

Date: Friday, June 13 **Time:** 10-12PM

Butterflies have been described as the pulse of nature; their population and its changes provide a look into the health of an ecosystem. Join Jenn Rogers, Mercer County Naturalist as she spruces up her identifications skills in preparation for the North American Butterfly Association's Butterfly Count. Butterfly watchers of all ages and experience levels are welcome to join in. The official butterfly count is Saturday, July 19. If you are interested in participating in the official count, please register at 609-303-0706 or jrogers@mercercounty.org. **Location:** Howell Living History Farm Visitor Center, Titusville. **Sponsor:** Mercer County Park Commission

Groom, Tack and Ride Activity 2

Date: Friday, June 13 **Time:** 11:45-1:30PM

Enjoy the beautiful surroundings of Mercer County Equestrian Center while pre-school through middle school students and their families participate in an instructional session on horse care, grooming session, learn how to put on tack (riding equipment), and go for a pony ride! Limit 14 participants. Registration required. Call 730-9059 or email ccardinal@mercercounty.org **Location:** Mercer County Equestrian Center, Federal City Road, Pennington **Sponsor:** Mercer County Equestrian Center

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2014 Partners

Amateur Astronomers Association of Princeton

Art Sparks

Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space

Hopewell Township Parks & Recreation

Hopewell Valley Arts Council

Hopewell Valley Regional School District

Howell Living History Farm

John Hart Farms

Lawrence Hopewell Trail

Mercer County Equestrian Center

Mercer County Park Commission

Pennington Borough Parks & Recreation

Recreation Foundation of Hopewell Valley

Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association

Washington Crossing State Park Nature Center

Astronomy Outside with Telescopes

Date: Friday, June 13 **Time:** 8:45PM-11PM

Get outside under the stars and observe our night sky with high tech telescopes while learning some astronomy. Expert astronomers will demonstrate how telescopes work, observe the first quarter moon, planets, stars, and some deep sky celestial objects. Registration preferred! Call 737-3753. Program will happen only if twilight skies are clear or partly clear. Questions about evening skies, call Observatory at 8:30 PM (737-2575). **Location:** Washington Crossing State Park (enter off Bear Tavern Road) visit www.princetonastronomy.org for map **Sponsor:** Amateur Astronomers Association of Princeton.

Orienteering Word Scramble

Date: Saturday, June 14 **Time:** 10AM-12PM

Enjoy the Lawrence Hopewell Trail in Rosedale Park as outdoor enthusiasts elementary school age thru adults are invited to enjoy today's version of a treasure hunt! This walking adventure will take you up and down hills, on and off the LHT, into wooded areas and open spaces as you hunt down clues (sites on a map) to get letters to solve the word scramble. The walk is less than 2 miles (an abbreviated course and word scramble will be offered for children). Prizes for top finishers for children and adults. Registration preferred but not necessary! Call 737-3753. Please bring a pen or pencil. **Location:** Meet at the tent by the lake at Rosedale Park, Mercer Meadows, Federal City Road, Pennington **Sponsor:** Lawrence Hopewell Trail

Play in an Old Time Baseball Game

Date: Saturday, June 14 **Times:** 11AM & 1PM

Two New Jersey "farm teams" will take to the field at Howell Living History Farm. Members of the public are welcome to join or watch the Howell Farm Hogs vs. the Jersey Bulls at 1PM. Rules will be presented to prospective players prior to the game. At 11AM, a similar game played by two vintage baseball league teams, the Flemington Neshanocks and the New York Gothams, will feature the use of reproduction 19th century equipment and uniforms. Prior to each game, Brad Brooklyn Shaw, of the Neshanocks, will narrate "Casey at the Bat", and give a history of the 1864 game. **Location:** Howell Living History Farm, Lambertville **Sponsor:** Howell Living History Farm-Mercer County Park Commission & Recreation Foundation of Hopewell Valley

Fiddlers Creek Preserve Hike

Date: Saturday, June 14 **Time:** 1-3PM

Take a stroll along the new trails of Fiddlers Creek Preserve. Take a walk through the forest restoration area, along the creek and into the woods. We will see flowers blooming and hear birds singing! Appropriate for all ages. **Location:** Meet at Baldpate Mountain, Fiddlers Creek Road parking area. **Sponsors:** Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space

A Day on the Farm

Date: Saturday, June 14 **Time:** 3PM-4:30 PM

Come out and explore a real working farm. Meet the animals and see what the farmhands are up to. Take a tour of the farm, learn how farmers care for livestock and how they make animal feed from the crops grown on the farm. You'll see some horses too! **Location:** John Hart Farms, 91 Titus Mill Road, Pennington. **Sponsor:** John Hart Farms



Hopewell Valley's Backyard

For more information
contact: Hopewell Valley
Municipal Alliance
737-0120 x642



Hopewell Valley Come Outside & Play! is being brought to you by the Hopewell Valley Municipal Alliance in partnership with over a dozen community organizations. *Thank you for participating!*

In case of inclement weather call Hopewell Township Parks & Recreation Department at 737-3753 or Hopewell Valley Municipal Alliance at 737-0120 x 642