

INDEPENDENCE PARTY Saturday, June 29, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m. Celebrate July 4th at the park! Something for everyone with a Quilt Show, Pie Auction, White Elephant Sale and Native Plant Sale. Blue Velvet Swing Band will play from 11:30-1:30. Food trucks Cable's Lobster Rolls, Pinkies and It's the Ship will be on hand with tasty food. **Free General Admission**

July

BAT COUNT. Saturday, July 13, 8:30p.m. Did you know that Salt Springs Park is home to a colony of bats? We want to learn more about this population, so we're taking part in the PA Game Commission's Appalachian Bat Count initiative to monitor the health of our bats, and you can help. After a brief introduction, we'll count our resident bats as they emerge from their maternal roost. Bring something to sit on and a flashlight. The count will be led by Lackawanna State Park's Environmental Education Specialist **Tony DeSantis**. **Fee: Free-will donation.**

MOTHS. Saturday, July 26, 9 p.m. When the sun goes down, the moths come out. Moths are among the most diverse organisms on earth, and we want to see what is flying around the night skies at Salt Springs Park. We will set up drop sheets and lights to attract them in. Lackawanna State Park's Environmental Education Specialist **Tony DeSantis** will point out the different species and explain their roles in the ecosystem. You may come and go as you please. **Fee: Free-will donation.**

ARCHERY FOR BEGINNERS. Saturday, July 27, 10 a.m. till Noon (8/10, and 9/14). Our beginner's program is based on the National Archery in Schools Program, which makes it easy for anyone to learn. We provide the equipment, and you bring your focus. All ages are welcome. This is a great family activity taught by NASP-certified instructor **Diane Wurth**. **Held beside the Dairy Barn, beyond the parking lot. Fee: \$5; \$15/family.**

Friends of Salt Springs Park

Programs & Events

February-July
2024



**Salt Springs Park
Franklin Forks, PA**

(From Montrose: 6 miles N on Rt. 29;
1 mile W on Silver Creek Rd to park)

For latest program information:
570-967-7275

www.friendsofsaltspringspark.org



Join us on Facebook!

****For all programs, children under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.**

****Meet outside the Wheaton House unless otherwise noted.**

February

MAKE YOUR OWN MAPLE SYRUP IN YOUR OWN KITCHEN. Saturday, February 24, 10–12 p.m. Did you know that with locally available supplies that cost less than \$50 and tools that are almost surely already in your kitchen, you can easily make your own year's supply of maple syrup? Join us and learn how to identify and gather sap from sugar maple trees. **Jim Hayes** will then guide us through each step of cooking it down to delicious maple syrup so you can do it in your own kitchen next year. Samples of each phase of the product will be available. Bring some winter gear because we will be tapping a sugar maple tree and gathering sap at the start of the class. **Fee: \$5; members and kids, free.**

March

OWL PROWL NIGHT HIKE. Friday, March 1, 6:00 p.m. Whoooo do you hear? Join us as we listen for the owls that call the park home. After Environmental Education Specialist **Tony DeSantis's** short talk about how owls reign supreme in the darkest of nights, we will walk about a mile and a half with hopes of hearing a hoot or two—so be prepared to stand still at times and be silent. Dress for the weather, wear proper footwear for trails, and bring a flashlight. **Fee: Free-will donation.**

April

FIRST SPRING HIKE. Sunday, April 7, 9:30 a.m. Take a break from your taxes or just give yourself a nature treat and head for the hills of Salt Springs Park. Spring is in the air—or so we hope. We'll meet and then choose which trail to explore. Maybe we'll even find new life teeming in a vernal pool. All hiking levels welcome. **Fee: Free-will donation.**

SOLAR ECLIPSE VIEWING. Monday, April 8, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. If you can't take the time to drive to an area with "totality", we will be conducting an eclipse event at Salt Springs Park on the afternoon of April 8th. The eclipse begins at 2:07 PM and reaches a 96.5% coverage at 3:23 PM. We have a limited number of eclipse glasses, so if you have your own, please bring them. No matter the weather, it will be way cool to see the park get really dark in the middle of the afternoon! **Fee: \$5/Members Free**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED—SPRING CLEANUP DAY. Saturday, April 20, 9 a.m. We need volunteers for this annual spring workday. We clear trails, cut up downed trees, split logs, stack firewood, rake lawns and flowerbeds, clean the buildings, pull invasive species, assemble picnic tables, paint signs, and more. With the new footbridge over Fall Brook now replaced, there's lots of work in the old picnic and salt spring area to do. **Free food, drinks, and T-shirts provided to all volunteers. Let us know if you can make it (friends@saltspringspark.org) so we have enough supplies on hand.**

May

ARCHERY FOR BEGINNERS. Saturday, May 11, 10 a.m. till Noon (also 6/8, 7/27, 8/10, and 9/14). Our beginner's program is based on the National Archery in Schools Program, which makes it easy for anyone to learn. We provide the equipment, and you bring your focus. All ages are welcome. This is a great family activity taught by NASP-certified instructor **Diane Wurth. Held beside the Dairy Barn, beyond the parking lot. Fee: \$5; \$15/family.**

TRAIL HIKE. Saturday, May 4, 10 a.m. Enjoy a refreshing walk along one of the park's many beautiful trails. We'll meet and then choose which trail to explore. Maybe we'll even find new life teeming in a vernal pool. All hiking levels welcome. **Fee: Free-will donation.**

TRAIL HIKE—NEW TRAIL REVEAL. Saturday, May 11, 2 p.m. Come see the newest trail, admire the rock outcropping and learn about the geology. You can even make your suggestion to name the new trail! **Fee: Free-will donation.**

June

WHAT GOOD ARE BATS? Saturday, June 8, 7:30 p.m. Bats, the only mammal capable of true flight, are right at home in the nighttime skies. You are invited to find out how vital bats are for the environment and for us in a presentation by Environmental Education Specialist **Tony DeSantis**. Afterwards, we will take a count of our resident bats as part of the PA Game Commission's Appalachian Bat Count initiative to monitor the health of bats. We will also have a bat count on July 13 at 8:30 p.m. **Fee: Free-will donation.**

TRAIL HIKE. Sunday, June 9, 1 p.m. Enjoy a refreshing walk along one of the park's many beautiful trails. We'll meet and then choose which trail to explore. All hiking levels welcome. **Fee: Free-will donation.**

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FATHER'S DAY CELEBRATION Saturday, June 15, 11:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. Come join us for a Car Cruise-in, Cornhole Tournament (must pre-register: **Scoreholio app**, \$15 fee) and Food Trucks! It's the Ship and Pinkies food trucks will be in the Wheaton House parking lot. **Free General Admission, \$15 pre-register for Cornhole Tournament**