



AUGUST - DECEMBER 2018

# NATURE EXPLORER

## ACTIVITIES & NEWS

FOR MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS OF DELAWARE NATURE SOCIETY



Family Autumn Hike at Ashland Nature Center by Courtney McKinley

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## Nature Explorer Aug - Dec 2018

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[DelNature.org](http://DelNature.org)

# Letter from our Executive Directors

Friends,

The summer months yielded many happy campers, over 1,200 children dove deep into nature at our nature centers, farm, and preserves! With an emphasis on fun, camp children enjoyed adventures outdoors, keeping their minds sharp and hearts engaged in nature-based learning that is proven to make a lasting impact in how they care for the environment as adults.

The autumn season can offer some of the best opportunities to plan your next adventure outdoors. This issue of the *Nature Explorer* provides endless opportunities to hike, kayak, bike, ski, run, and explore nature with experts in their field. From gardeners, to birders, to tree huggers, to foodies, there is something, assuredly for everyone to do, see, taste, and experience with us this fall.

Delaware Nature Society is so much more than the programs we provide – we hope you see us as champions for stewarding and protecting the things that matter most to us: clean water, healthy food, protection of wildlife and their natural habitats. You can read more about these important themes in our featured articles, *Our Work in Watersheds: Protecting the Source*; *Gardening for Water & Wildlife*; and *Locavores Love Our Marketplace*. Our work in advocating for the protection of the environment is one of the ways your support helps advance our work in the community.

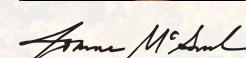
Thank you for being a participant in our work, and an important part of our engagement with the community. We couldn't achieve our vision to improve the environment without your support.





Anne Harper  
Acting Executive Director





Joanne McGeoch  
Acting Deputy Executive Director

Autumn Trees at Middle Run by Derek Stoner

## Become a member. Make a difference.

Help support our local ecosystems and promote clean water and land, for the health of people and wildlife.

[DelNature.org/BecomeAMember](http://DelNature.org/BecomeAMember)

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## Our Work in Watersheds: Protecting the Source



## Locavores Love Our Marketplace



## Activities

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## Advocacy - How a Bill Becomes Law in Delaware



## Gardening for Water & Wildlife



## Volunteer Spotlight: Seth Ross



### Adult Programs

In-depth experiences for adults only.

### All Ages Programs

Adults and children are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

### Family Programs

Together time with your kids. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

### Children's Programs

Drop off your kids for nature discovery with our safety-certified instructors.

### Preschooler Programs

Preschooler (ages 2–5) programs are noted with these symbols:



See info on  
pages 10 – 11

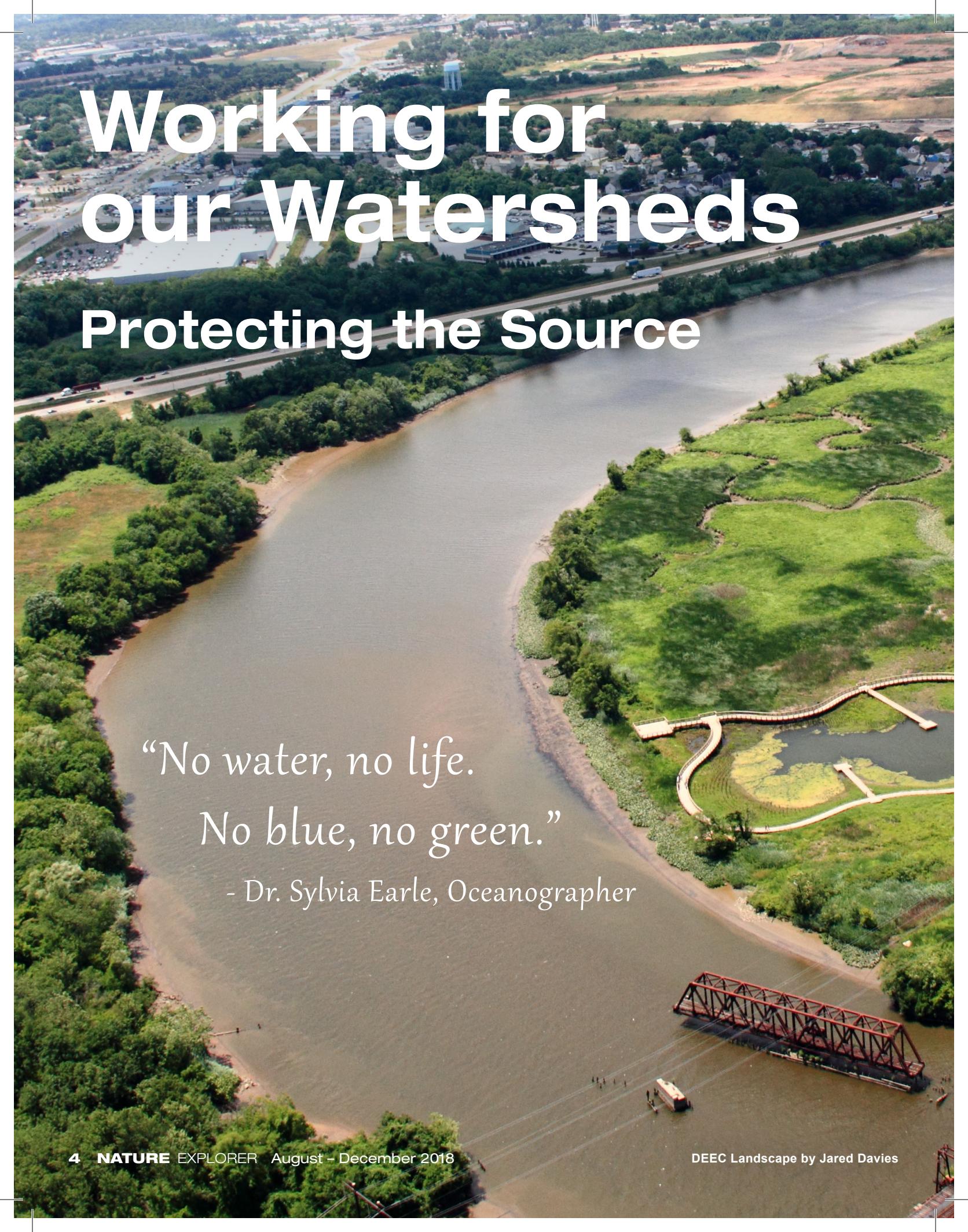


BEAU BIDEN FOUNDATION  
FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN  
SHIELD OF PROTECTION PARTNER



Learn about our passionate, talented, safety-certified nature education team at [DelNature.org/EducationTeam](http://DelNature.org/EducationTeam)

# Working for our Watersheds



## Protecting the Source

“No water, no life.  
No blue, no green.”

- Dr. Sylvia Earle, Oceanographer

Our waterways once flowed through a landscape dominated by vast forests, marshes, and rich wetlands. The complex network of streams and rivers crisscrossing the fertile landscape functioned as a thriving circulatory system, facilitating the flow of nutrients from upland regions and the ocean.

Settlement led to extensive land clearing to make way for communities and agriculture. Removal of the forests and wetlands, which functioned as a protective green covering, resulted in significant soil erosion and the loss of wildlife habitat. Over time development and industrialization introduced chemicals into waters. Contaminants from homes, industry, and agriculture are still entering our waters today, resulting in excess nutrients, bacteria, and sediment that contribute significantly to water quality issues.

But there's good news. Delaware Nature Society works closely with established regional partners to reverse the harmful effects of water pollution and protect Delaware's three important watersheds: the Delaware River watershed, Chesapeake Bay watershed, and Inland Bays watershed.

## What is a watershed?

A watershed is an area of land that drains into a specific body of water. Everyone lives in a watershed and what we do on land directly impacts the quality of our waters.

The Delaware River watershed spans 330 miles and four states and provides crucial habitat to hundreds of plant and wildlife species including over 200 fish species. From its source in the Catskill Mountains of New York, the Delaware River flows downstream past rural, suburban, and urban areas throughout the mid-Atlantic region, including Philadelphia, PA, Trenton, NJ, and Wilmington, DE. More than 15 million people rely on Delaware River waterways for clean drinking water.

One-third of Delaware flows into the Chesapeake Bay watershed. This land area starts in Cooperstown, NY and goes as far west as Sweet Springs, WV, spanning rural farmlands and the Baltimore-Washington, DC metropolitan area. Rivers and streams that eventually flow into the bay are the source of drinking water for 75% of the region's 17 million residents.

Inland Bays encompass 30 square miles of shallow lagoons and 10,000 acres of marshland. This area is home to more than 112 species of finfish, 40 species of shellfish, and is vital spawning ground for horseshoe crabs. It's of major recreational and ecological significance, playing a huge role in Delaware's \$7 billion coastal economy.

## Key partners & impacts

Delaware Nature Society collaborates closely with regional partners to maximize efforts and make the biggest impact for clean water. Together we actively work to improve and protect water we rely on for drinking, recreation, wildlife and economic purposes. As one of the leading environmental organizations in the State, Delaware Nature Society represents Delaware for two regional powerhouse advocacy coalitions:

The Coalition for the Delaware River Watershed unites organizations throughout the region effectively advocating for protecting and restoring the Delaware River Basin. The Coalition achieves this by coordinating communications and actions that foster success at the federal, state, and local levels. The Coalition's dedicated work helped to create federal legislation that created the Delaware River Basin Restoration Program resulting in millions of dollars of restoration funding.

The Choose Clean Water Coalition has been harnessing the collective power of more than 230 groups to advocate for clean rivers and streams in all of the communities in the Chesapeake Bay region since 2010. By coordinating policy, messaging, action, and accountability, the Coalition successfully secured full funding for the EPA Chesapeake Bay program in this fiscal year.

Delaware Nature Society also works closely with **Delaware Center for the Inland Bays**, **Partnership for the Delaware Estuary**, and the **University of Delaware Water Resource Center** on the *Clean Water: Delaware's Clear Choice* campaign, a statewide education and outreach effort focused on securing additional clean water funding. This campaign is championed by our Clean Water Alliance, a coalition of diverse stakeholder groups including nonprofit organizations, academia, and businesses, and our Water Warriors, citizen advocates that care about water quality for future and current generations. For Fiscal Year 2019, the Campaign secured \$30 million in State conservation funding: \$10 million for Open Space; \$10 million for Farmland Preservation; and \$10 million for Clean Water.

Most recently Delaware Nature Society joined the Alliance for Watershed Education of the Delaware River funded by the William Penn Foundation. The 23 education centers in the Alliance—including our DuPont Environmental Education Center—are collectively engaging thousands of people in exploring and enjoying their local waters to become stewards of the Delaware River watershed.

Everyone has a role to play in helping maintain healthy watersheds, from reducing the amount of chemicals that we use on our lawns to participating in a tree planting or creek clean-up.

Visit **DeINature.org/HealthyWaters** to learn how you can contribute.

# Locavores Love Our Marketplace

Are you a local eater?

Do you strive to fill your table with the bounty our region has to offer?

As a local eater, you are receiving food at its freshest and most nutritious. You are eating seasonally, capturing the food at its most delicious. You are also preserving farmland and choosing an option that is better for the environment...thanks to the smaller carbon footprint. You are also supporting your local economy and creating a community. Did you realize the power of a commitment to local food?

This season, we would like to fortify your role as a local eater by offering you new edible opportunities. Visit Coverdale Farm Preserve in Greenville, DE on Wednesdays, 11 am – 6 pm and Saturdays, 9 am – 2 pm to shop at our delicious Farm Market.

In addition to our farm-grown produce and pasture-raised eggs, we have partnered with many great neighboring purveyors to bring you Walt's Swarmbustin' Honey, Crisp & Co. Pickled Vegetables, cheeses from The Farm

at Doe Run, coffee from Little Goat Roasting Company, artisan gelato from Gotta Lotta Gelata and breads from De La Coeur Café & Boulangerie.

This is just a taste of our lineup.

In addition to the great foods to take home and eat, you can also eat at the farm every Wednesday from 11 am – 2 pm. We have partnered with some of the yummiest local food trucks to offer up lunch and treats until our season ends in October.

Not only are we working to dress your table in the height of the current season, we are looking ahead to Thanksgiving. Since June we have been pasture raising heritage and traditional breeds of turkeys for your holiday table. We will be bringing you information later this fall on how you can crown your Thanksgiving table with a beautiful Coverdale Farm bird.

The next time you make your grocery list, consider a stop at Coverdale as the perfect market for amazing local fare grown, raised, and crafted just miles from your home. We look forward to feeding you and your family!

## Shop our Farm Market

**Wednesdays, 11 am - 6 pm**

**Saturdays, 9 am - 2 pm**

**Coverdale Farm**

**[DelNature.org/FarmMarket](http://DelNature.org/FarmMarket)**



Tree Swallow at  
Coverdale Farm Preserve  
by Christi Leeson

# Become a CSA Member



June - October. Delicious, locally-grown vegetables, flowers, herbs, farm fresh eggs, recipes, cooking classes and more

**DelNature.org/CSA**  
**302.239.2334**

# farm TO FORK

**Saturday, September 15**  
**Coverdale Farm Preserve, Greenville, DE**  
**DelNature.org/FarmToFork**

## Come join us at **Ashland Hawk Watch**

**Daily, Sep – Nov, 9 am – 4 pm**  
**Ashland's Hawk Watch Hill | FREE, just show up**  
**DelNature.org/HawkWatch**



**Calling all  
Teachers & Scout  
Leaders**

**Plan nature science  
programs with us  
this winter & spring**

Hands-on • Inquiry-based  
Age-appropriate • STEM aligned  
Common Core State Standards  
Science • Agriculture • History

### **FIELD TRIPS**

Bring your class or group  
to one of our 4 sites.

### **OUTREACH**

Bring nature discovery to your  
meeting space or school classroom.

### **OVERNIGHT**

Create a meaningful experience your  
group will always remember.

### **To learn more**

**Scouts & groups**  
**302.239.2334 x113**  
**Aaron@DelNature.org**

**Teachers**  
**302.239.2334 x133**  
**DavidP@DelNature.org**





# Ashland Nature Center

## Hours

### Visitor Center

Mon – Fri, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Sat, 10 am – 3 pm; Sun, 12 pm – 4 pm (Apr-Oct only)

### Trails & Picnic Area

Daily, dawn to dusk

### Entry Fee

Members FREE; Non-mem Adult \$5, Child age 2+ \$3

### Drop-In Programs

(Entry fees apply)

Nature Walks: Sat, 10am & 2pm; Sun 2pm (Aug-Oct)

Bird Banding: Mon, 8 am – 11 am (Aug-Nov)

Hawk Watch: Daily, 9 am – 4 pm (Sep-Nov)

**[DelNature.org/Ashland](http://DelNature.org/Ashland)**



# DuPont Environmental Education Center

## Hours

### Visitor Center

Tue – Sat 11 am – 5 pm (Aug – Oct)

Tue – Sat 10 am – 3 pm (Nov – Mar)

Sun 12 pm – 4 pm

### Pond Loop & Garden

Daily, dawn to dusk

### FREE entry

### Drop-In Programs (Aug – Feb)

Lunch with Live Animals: Sat, 12 pm – 12:30 pm

Meet Marsh Animals: Sat & Sun, 1 pm – 1:45 pm

Netting in the Marsh: Sat & Sun, 2 pm – 2:45 pm

**[DelNature.org/DEEC](http://DelNature.org/DEEC)**



# Coverdale Farm Preserve

## Entry Fee

Members FREE

Non-members: Adult \$5, Child age 2+ \$3

### Farm Market

Wed, 11 am – 6 pm • Sat, 9 am – 2 pm

(May – Oct only)

Visit our farm animals, shop our market featuring farm-grown and local products, farm chores on Sat, food trucks on Wed. CSA pickup.

### Drop-In Programs

(Entry fees apply)

Bird Walks: Thu, 8 am – 11 am (Sep-Oct)

Farm Chores: Sat 9 am – 10 am (Aug-Oct)

**[DelNature.org/Coverdale](http://DelNature.org/Coverdale)**



# Abbott's Mill Nature Center

## Hours

### Visitor Center

Mon – Fri, 9 am – 4 pm

Sat – Sun, 12 pm – 4 pm (Apr – Oct)

### Trails & Picnic Area

Open daily, dawn to dusk

### FREE entry

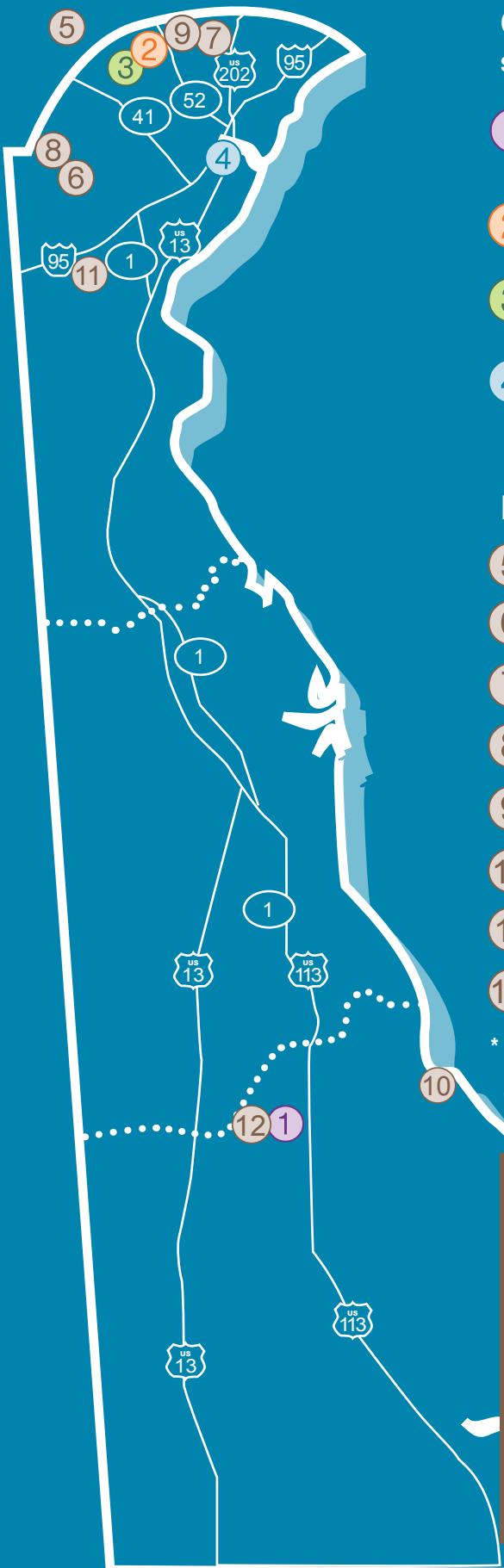
### Drop-In Programs

Bird Walks: Thu, 8:30 am – 10 am (9/20-10/15)

**[DelNature.org/AbbottsMill](http://DelNature.org/AbbottsMill)**

# AUG-DEC ACTIVITIES

2018



## OUR MAIN LOCATIONS

See visiting hours and attractions at left.

- 1 Abbott's Mill Nature Center  
15411 Abbott's Pond Rd, Milford, DE  
302.422.0847
- 2 Coverdale Farm Preserve  
543 Way Rd, Greenville, DE  
302.239.2334
- 3 Ashland Nature Center  
3511 Barley Mill Rd, Hockessin, DE  
302.239.2334
- 4 DuPont Environmental Education Center  
1400 Delmarva Ln, Wilmington, DE  
302.656.1490

## MORE LOCATIONS

- 5 Bucktoe Creek Preserve\*  
432 Sharp Rd, Avondale, PA
- 6 Middle Run Natural Area  
Possum Hollow Rd, Newark, DE
- 7 Granogue Estate\*  
2900 Montchanin Rd, Wilmington, DE
- 8 Mortensen Property\*  
1175 Pleasant Hill Road, Newark, DE
- 9 Flint Woods Preserve\*  
350 Twaddell Mill Rd, Wilmington, DE
- 10 Marvel Saltmarsh Preserve\*  
Marvel Dr, Slaughter Beach, DE
- 11 Cooch-Dayett Mills\*  
904 Old Baltimore Pk, Newark, DE
- 12 Blairs Pond 5K Trail  
8187 Abbotts Pond Rd, Greenwood, DE

\* Private property, access during Delaware Nature Society programs only.  
Call 302.239.2334 for directions.

### More Drop-In Programs

Middle Run Bird Walks  
Tue, 8 am – 11 am (Sep-Oct)

Bucktoe Nighthawk Watch  
Daily, 3 pm (8/23-9/3)

Bucktoe Bird Walks  
Sun, 8 am – 11 am (Aug-Nov)

Bucktoe Bird Banding  
Wed, 8 am – 11 am (Aug-Nov)

# Series

## Young Naturalists Club

Sep 23, Oct 28, Nov 18, Dec 16 | 9 am – 12 pm

Ages 9 – 12 | Members only \$70 | F18050AS

Meets at Ashland (unless otherwise noted)

Led by Jeff Haas

Join this group of nature lovers and explorers. Hike, explore streams, woods, fields and wetlands in search of reptiles, amphibians, birds, and mammals at Ashland Nature Center and natural areas and preserves in the area.

## Teen Naturalists

Monthly through Sep 2018 – Aug 2019 | times vary

Ages 13 – 17 | Mem \$250 | Non-mem \$275 | F18051AS

Meets at Ashland (unless otherwise noted)

Led by Courtney McKinley & Annalie Mallon

Join our group and make new friends that like hiking, kayaking, camping, wildlife, and just being outside thing! Includes a 5-day trip each summer into the wild. Adventure, nature study, and volunteering 10 hours for Delaware Nature Society are all part of the club. Additional fees may apply for trips.

## Young Waterfowlers

Wednesdays 6:30 pm – 9 pm | Oct 3 – Dec 5 (6 sessions)

Ages 11–15 | Members only \$125 | F18052AS

Meets at Ashland (unless otherwise noted)

Led by Ashland staff and Jim Jordan, BRCA

Study wildlife management, habitat protection, and conservation practices during a comprehensive introduction to the American waterfowling heritage. Waterfowl identification, conservation ethics, safety skills, good sportsmanship and boat and water safety taught. Program offered in partnership with Brandywine Red Clay Alliance.

## Advanced Young Waterfowlers

Wednesdays 6:30 pm – 9 pm | Oct 3 – Dec 5 (6 sessions)

Ages 11–15 | Members only \$125 | F18053AS

Meets at Ashland (unless otherwise noted)

Led by Ashland staff and Jim Jordan, BRCA

For alumnae of previous Young Waterfowler programs. Training in blind preparation, decoy setup, duck and goose calling, and firearm safety. Learn from champion waterfowl callers. Participate in conservation-focused projects. Experience Canada Goose hunting at private farms. Program offered in partnership with Brandywine Red Clay Alliance.



## Knee-high Naturalists Preschool

Join us for hands-on nature discovery outdoors with our fun and professional team of Teacher Naturalists.

Wednesdays | 10 am – 11:30 am | Sep – Nov | Age 2 – 5 | Abbott's Mill Nature Center

Price per class for children: \$4 Member, \$7 Non-member | Parent participation required, free of charge

**Descriptions & Registration:  
302.239.2334 or [DelNature.org/Preschool](http://DelNature.org/Preschool)**



# Green by Nature Preschool

Discover the wonders of nature with your little one! Enjoy hands-on nature discovery outdoors with our professional team of Teacher Naturalists.

Tuesdays & Fridays | 9:30 am – 11 am | Mar – Jun | Sites alternate | Age 2 – 5

Price per class for children: \$6 Member, \$10 Non-member | Parent participation required, free of charge  
Pre-registration is required. Space is limited.

Tue	8/21	Buzz Buzz	DEEC	U18238DC
Fri	8/24	No class		
Tue	8/28	C is for Corn	Coverdale	U18132CF
Fri	8/31	No class		
Tue	9/4	Damsels and Dragons	Ashland	F18030AS
Fri	9/7	Insect Flight	Ashland	F18031AS
Tue	9/11	Sunshine is Energy	DEEC	F18230DC
Fri	9/14	Pollinate	DEEC	F18231DC
Tue	9/18	F is for Fall	Coverdale	F18130CF
Fri,	9/21	Fluttering Butterflies and Busy Bees	Coverdale	F18131CF
Tue	9/25	Grasshoppers	Ashland	F18032AS
Fri	9/28	Animal Moves	Ashland	F18033AS
Tue	10/2	Hop, Swim, Fly	DEEC	F18232DC
Fri	10/5	Hop, Skip, Jump	DEEC	F18233DC
Tue	10/9	I is for Insects	Coverdale	F18132CF
Fri	10/12	Hair, Fur, Feathers, and Wool	Coverdale	F18133CF
Tue	10/16	Jack-O-Lanterns!	Ashland	F18034AS
Fri	10/19	Gorgeous Gourds	Ashland	F18035AS
Tue	10/23	Kingfishers and their Feathered Friends	DEEC	F18234DC
Fri	10/26	Kites!	DEEC	F18235DC
Tue	10/30	L is for Leaves	Coverdale	F18134CF
Fri	11/2	Turkey Tracks	Coverdale	F18135CF
Tue	11/6	Marvelous Monarchs	Ashland	F18036AS
Fri	11/9	Animal Homes	Ashland	F18037AS
Tue	11/13	Nature in our Neighborhood	DEEC	F18236DC
Fri	11/16	Garden Games	DEEC	F18237DC
Tue	11/20	O is for Overalls	Coverdale	F18136CF
Fri	11/23	No class, enjoy the holiday!		
Tue	11/27	Pumpkin Seeds	Ashland	F18038AS
Fri	11/30	Pebbles, Rocks, Boulders	Ashland	F18039AS
Tue	12/4	Quiet...Sounds of the Marsh	DEEC	F18238DC
Fri	12/7	No class		
Tue	12/11	R is for Rest	Coverdale	F18137CF
Fri	12/14	No class		
Tue	12/18	Shhhh...Sleep	Ashland	F18040AS

Classes return Jan 8

Descriptions & Registration: [DelNature.org/Preschool](http://DelNature.org/Preschool) or 302.239.2334

# August



Netting in the Marsh at DEEC

Thu, Aug 16 | 5 pm – 8 pm | All Ages

#### Light Up the River

Milford Public Library  
(11 S Front St, Milford)  
and The Music School of Delaware  
(23 N. Walnut St, Milford)  
Boat launch 8:30 pm  
FREE for everyone | V18380AM  
No need to register, just show up

Fri, Aug 17 – Sep 16 | 11 am – 5 pm | All Ages

#### Landscape Photography Exhibition

Meets at DEEC  
Opening reception Fri, Aug 17  
FREE for everyone | U18265DC  
No need to register, just show up

Sat, Aug 18 | 2 pm – 3:30 pm | All Ages

#### Guided Running of the Mill Tour

Led by Steve Childers  
Meets at Abbott's  
Mem FREE | Non-mem Adults \$5  
Non-mem Children \$3 | V18360AM

Tue, Aug 21 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5

#### Green by Nature: Buzz Buzz

Led by DEEC staff  
Meets at DEEC  
Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | U18238DC

Sat, Aug 25 | 12 pm – 3 pm | Family 8+

#### Family Summer Canoe

Led by Ed Rohrbach & Em McKeever  
Adult participation required  
Meets at DEEC  
Mem \$10 | Non-mem \$15 | U18263DC

Tue, Aug 28 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5

#### Green by Nature: C is for Corn

Led by Judi Vanderwerff  
Meets at Coverdale  
Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | U18132CF

Sat, Aug 25 | 12 pm – 2 pm | Adult 18+

#### Coverdale Jam Session

Led by Mary Boeni  
Take home your own preserves  
Meets at Coverdale  
Mem \$15 | Non-mem \$20 | U18165CF

## August Drop-in Programs

At Abbott's, Ashland, Coverdale, and DEEC. No pre-registration required. Free for members.  
Free for non-members except at Ashland, which has a trail fee – Adult: \$5, Child age 2+: \$3

**Guided Nature & Birding Hikes | Nighthawk Watch**

**Farm Market Days | Bird Banding**

**Meet Live Animals | Catch Critters with Dip Nets**

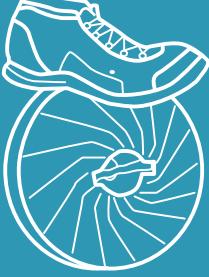
**Learn more: [DelNature.org/DropIn](http://DelNature.org/DropIn)**





Preschool details pages 10-11

ASHLAND ■ ABBOTT'S ■ COVERDALE ■ DEEC  
Colors indicate site | Addresses for many sites on page 9



# Run the Mill — Bike + Run — **2018**

Abbott's Mill Nature Center

**NEW DATE: Sun Sep 9**

8 am Race Packet Pickup | 9 am Race Begins

5K followed by a well-earned Dogfish beer, food, live music, and more. #NationalTrailsDay

Duathlon: \$50pp (after Sep 1: \$70pp)  
Get 50% off if you register as a team of 2!

5K Trail Run/Walk: \$25pp (after Sep 1: \$30pp)

Registration required.

**DelNature.org/RunTheMill**

2018 

# Music at the Mill

*summer concert series*



**FREE ADMISSION**

## 2<sup>ND</sup> THURSDAY NIGHTS

**AUG 9 & SEP 13, 6 - 7:30 PM**

Dogfish Head craft ales, lawn games, food trucks, Lifecycle ride, and more

**15411 ABBOTT'S POND ROAD, MILFORD, DE**

**Details about activities and more info at  
DELNATURE.ORG/MUSICATTHEMILL**

## Audubon Exhibition at the Biggs Museum

**Aug 3 - Nov 25**

Biggs Museum of American Art  
406 Federal Street, Dover, DE 19901

Examine the importance of the artist and naturalist, John James Audubon, through a large exhibition of his earliest works.

General Admission \$10 | Seniors \$8  
FREE for Biggs Members, students, children, & more

**Details: BiggsMuseum.org/audubon/**

**DelNature Members get \$2 off**  
When you purchase at the door and show your Delaware Nature Society Membership Card

**See more Biggs programs on pages 14 & 16**

## Landscape Photography Exhibition

**Opening Reception on Fri, Aug 17  
at DEEC on Wilmington's Riverfront**

Exhibit runs Aug 17 – Sep 16, 11 am – 5 pm  
Top floor of the Visitor Center  
All ages | FREE for everyone | U18265DC  
No need to register, just show up



DELAWARE ART MUSEUM



# September

In Sep, Date TBD | 12 am – 12 am | All Ages

## Marvel Saltmarsh Preserve Groundbreaking

Led by Abbott's staff and staff of DelDOT, DNREC, & Town of Slaughter Beach  
Visit [DelNature.org/Events](http://DelNature.org/Events) in late summer for updated details.

Dates Sep 2018 – Aug 2019 | Ages 13-17

## Teen Naturalists

Led by Courtney McKinley & Annalie Mallon  
Meets at Ashland  
Mem \$250 | Non-mem \$275 | F18051AS

Tue, Sep 4 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5

## Green by Nature: Damsels and Dragons

Led by Judy Montgomery & Courtney McKinley  
Meets at Ashland  
Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18030AS

Wed, Sep 5 | 10 am – 11:30 am | Ages 2-5

## Knee High Naturalists: Migration

Led by Karen Hammer  
Meets at Abbott's  
Mem \$4 | Non-mem \$7 | F18331AM

Thu, Sep 6 | 8:30 am – 3 pm | Adult 18+

## Serpentine Barrens Hike and Herr's Potato Chip Factory Tour

Led by Joe Sebastiani & Janet Ebert  
Bring a bag lunch  
Van transportation from Ashland provided  
Mem \$30 | Non-mem \$40 | F18001AS

Fri, Sep 7 | 8:45 am – 12:30 pm | Adult 18+

## Churchman's Marsh Hike

Led by Dakin Hewlett & Jim White  
Van transportation from DEEC provided  
Mem \$15 | Non-mem \$20 | F18200DC

Fri, Sep 7 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5

## Green by Nature: Insect Flight

Led by Judy Montgomery & Courtney McKinley  
Meets at Ashland  
Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18031AS

Wed, Sep 8 | 8:30 am – 1:30 pm | Adult 21+

## Birds and Brews with the Biggs

Led by Joe Sebastiani  
Meets at Abbott's 10 am – 2pm  
and Ashland 8:30am – 1:30pm  
Birding followed by Audubon Exhibit at Biggs  
Van transportation from Ashland provided  
Mem \$25 | Non-mem \$35 | F18012AS

Sat, Sep 8 | 10 am – 12 pm | Family 6+

## Preserve Prowl

Led by Kathy Szczerba  
Meets at Coverdale  
Mem \$10/family | Non-mem \$12/Family  
F18161CF

Sun, Sep 9 | 8 am – 2 pm | Family 10+

## 3rd Annual Run the Mill

Meets at Abbott's  
Details and pricing page 13

Sun, Sep 9 | 1 pm – 3 pm | Family

## FREE Nature Walk: Grandparents Day Hike and Butterfly Watching

Led by Jess Rodriguez  
Meets at Bucktoe  
FREE for everyone | V18660BK  
Pre-registration required

Tue, Sep 11 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5

## Green by Nature: Sunshine is Energy

Led by DEEC staff  
Meets at DEEC  
Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18230DC

Wed, Sep 12 | 10 am – 11:30 am | Ages 2-5

## Knee High Naturalists: Hibernation

Led by Karen Hammer  
Meets at Abbott's  
Mem \$4 | Non-mem \$7 | F18332AM

Wed, Sep 12 | 8 am – 3 pm | Adult 18+

## Birds and Art Along the Delaware River

Led by Joe Sebastiani  
Enjoy lunch with artist and naturalist  
Nancy Carol Willis  
Van transportation from Ashland provided  
Mem \$25 | Non-mem \$35 | F18011AS

Thu, Sep 13 | 6 pm – 7:30 pm | Family

## Music at the Mill

Meets at Abbott's | FREE for everyone  
Details page 13

Fri, Sep 14 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5

## Green by Nature: Pollinate

Led by Shweta Arya  
Meets at DEEC  
Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18231DC

Fri, Sep 14 | 4 pm – 7 pm | Adult 18+

## Kayak the Christina

Led by Ed Rohrbach & Dakin Hewlett  
Bring a bag dinner | Meets at DEEC  
Mem \$15 | Non-mem \$20 | F18201DC

Sat, Sep 15 | 8 am – 2 pm | All Ages

## Raptor Celebration

Led by Joe Sebastiani  
Featuring light lunch, walks, activities  
Meets at Ashland  
Mem \$5 | Non-mem \$10 | F18041AS

## September Drop-in Programs

At Abbott's, Ashland, Coverdale, and DEEC. No pre-registration required. Free for members.  
Free for non-members except at Ashland, which has a trail fee – Adult: \$5, Child age 2+: \$3

**Guided Nature & Birding Hikes | Nighthawk & Hawk Watches  
Farm Market Days | Bird Banding  
Meet Live Animals | Catch Critters with Dip Nets**

**Learn more: [DelNature.org/DropIn](http://DelNature.org/DropIn)**





**Sat, Sep 15 | 2 pm – 3:30 pm | All Ages**

**Guided Running of the Mill Tour**

Led by Steve Childers  
Meets at Abbott's  
Mem FREE | Non-mem Adults \$5  
Non-mem Children \$3 | V18360AM

**Sat, Sep 15 | 9 am – 12 pm | All Ages**

**Annual Delaware Coastal Clean-up at Slaughter Beach**

Meets at Slaughter Beach Fire Company (359 Bay Ave, Slaughter Beach, DE)  
FREE for everyone | F18362AM  
Pre-registration encouraged

**Tue, Sep 18 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5**

**Green by Nature: F is for Fall**

Led by Judi Vanderwerff  
Meets at Coverdale  
Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18130CF

**Wed, Sep 19 | 10 am – 11:30 am | Ages 2-5**

**Knee High Naturalists: Camouflage**

Led by Karen Hammer  
Meets at Abbott's  
Mem \$4 | Non-mem \$7 | F18333AM

**Fri, Sep 21 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5**

**Green by Nature: Fluttering Butterflies and Busy Bees**

Led by Judi Vanderwerff  
Meets at Coverdale  
Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18131CF

**Fri, Sep 21 | 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm | All Ages**

**Members Only Autumn Equinox Hike & Campfire**

Led by Matt Babbitt  
Meets at Abbott's  
Mem FREE | F18363AM  
Call 302.422.0847 to register

**Sat, Sep 22 | 10 am – 2 pm | All Ages**

**Trailfest**

Meets at DEEC  
FREE for everyone | V18202DC  
No need to register, just show up  
Details on back cover

**Sat, Sep 22 | 1 pm – 3 pm | Family 6+**

**Fishing at the Farm**

Led by Judy Montgomery  
Meets at Coverdale  
Mem \$10/family | Non-mem \$15/family  
F18162CF



**Sat, Sep 22 | 5 pm – 10 am | Family**

**Family Campout at Bucktoe**

Led by Rob Yacucci  
Hot dogs, campfire treats, breakfast provided  
Meets at Bucktoe Creek Preserve  
Mem \$40/household | Non-mem \$55/household  
F18066BK

**Sat-Sun, Sep 22-23 | 7:30 pm – 11 am | Family**

**S'mores to Chores**

Led by Sheila Vincent & Ashley Harrell  
S'mores and breakfast included  
Meets at Coverdale  
Mem \$25 | Non-mem \$30 | F18168CF

**Sun, Sep 23 | 6 pm – 7:30 pm | All Ages**

**Autumn Equinox Hike and Campfire**

Led by Courtney McKinley  
Bring a picnic dinner, campfire treats provided  
Meets at Ashland  
Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18061AS

**Tue, Sep 25 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5**

**Green by Nature: Grasshoppers**

Led by Judy Montgomery & Courtney McKinley  
Meets at Ashland  
Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18032AS

**Wed, Sep 26 | 10 am – 11:30 am | Ages 2-5**

**Knee High Naturalists: Animal Homes – Up High!**

Led by Karen Hammer  
Meets at Abbott's  
Mem \$4 | Non-mem \$7 | F18334AM

**Thu, Sep 27 | 6:30 pm – 9 pm | Adult 18+**

**Cookbook Club: Deep Run Roots – My Corner of the South**

Led by Michele Wales  
Meets at Coverdale  
Mem \$65 | Non-mem \$75 | F18101CF

**Thu, Sep 27 | 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm | Adults 18+**

**Tea Time at Abbott's**

Led by Hazel Shinholt & Nora Childers  
Enjoy teas of Native Americans & early settlers  
Meets at Abbott's  
Mem \$10 | Non-mem \$15 | F18303AM

**Fri, Sep 28 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5**

**Green by Nature: Animal Moves**

Led by Judy Montgomery & Courtney McKinley  
Meets at Ashland  
Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18033AS

**Fri, Sep 28 | 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm | Ages 5-12**

**Parent's Night Out**

Led by DEEC staff  
Meets at DEEC  
Mem \$20 | Non-mem \$25 | F18250DC

# October

Tue, Oct 2 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5

## Green by Nature: Hop, Swim, Fly

Led by DEEC staff  
Meets at DEEC  
Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18232DC

Sat, Oct 6 | 10 am – 1 pm | Adult 18+

## Kayak the Christina

Led by Dakin Hewlett & Lesley Bensinger  
Bring a bag lunch | Meets at DEEC  
Mem \$15 | Non-mem \$20 | F18202DC

Mon, Oct 8 | 7:30 am – 5:30 pm | Adult 18+

## Appalachian Mountain Hawk Migration

Led by Sally O'Byrne  
Van transportation from Ashland provided  
Mem \$50 | Non-mem \$60 | F18003AS

Wed, Oct 3 | 10 am – 11:30 am | Ages 2-5

## Knee High Naturalists: Animal Homes – Down Low!

Led by Karen Hammer  
Meets at Abbott's  
Mem \$4 | Non-mem \$7 | F18335AM

Sat, Oct 6 | 10 am – 4 pm | Family

## Harvest Moon Festival

Raindate Sun Oct 7 | Meets at Coverdale  
Details on back cover

Tue, Oct 9 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5

## Green by Nature: I is for Insects

Led by Judi Vanderwerff  
Meets at Coverdale  
Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18132CF

Wednesdays, Oct 3 – Dec 5 | 6:30 pm – 9 pm  
Ages 11-15

## Young Waterfowlers Advanced Young Waterfowlers

Meets at Ashland  
Details page 10

Sat, Oct 6 | 11 am – 12 pm | All Ages

## Biggs Kids: Bird Watching Basics

Led by Alice Mohrman  
Meets at Biggs Museum  
(406 Federal Street, Dover, DE)  
FREE for everyone | F18364AM

Wed, Oct 10 | 10 am – 11:30 am | Ages 2-5

## Knee High Naturalists: Way Seeds Travel

Led by Karen Hammer  
Meets at Abbott's  
Mem \$4 | Non-mem \$7 | F18336AM

Fri, Oct 5 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5

## Green by Nature: Hop, Skip, Jump

Led by DEEC staff  
Meets at DEEC  
Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18233DC

Sat, Oct 6 | 1 pm – 1:45 pm | Family 5+

## Invite the Birds: Gardening for Water and Wildlife

Led by Alice Mohrman  
Seeds packet included | Meets at Biggs  
Museum (406 Federal Street, Dover, DE)  
FREE for everyone | F18365AM  
Pre-registration encouraged

Fri, Oct 12 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5

## Green by Nature: Hair, Fur, Feathers, and Wool

Led by Judi Vanderwerff  
Meets at Coverdale  
Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18133CF

## Intend to Leave the World a Better Place?

### Plan your Legacy with Delaware Nature Society!

When you include us in your Estate Plans or Will, you can trust that you are leaving a lasting gift to preserve and protect land, natural resources and wildlife through our conservation and advocacy efforts, while inspiring future generations through our education programs.

### What better legacy can you imagine?

For more information on how to make a planned gift and join our Monarch Legacy Society, please contact: Joanne McGeoch, Acting Deputy Executive Director, 302.239.2334 x 103, [JMcGeoch@DelNature.org](mailto:JMcGeoch@DelNature.org).

Ashland Stream in Autumn



Fri, Oct 12 | 6 pm – 9 pm | All Ages

**Movies at the Mill**

Meets at Abbott's

Details: see ad at right

Sun, Oct 14 | 9 am – 11:30 am | Family 6+

**Chores and Breakfast**

Led by Ashley Harrell

Farm breakfast included | Meets at Coverdale

Mem \$12 | Non-mem \$16 | F18167CF

Sun, Oct 14 | 10 am – 3 pm | Family 7+

**Family Fossiling**

Led by Ashland staff

Meets at Ashland

Van transportation to C & D Canal provided

Mem \$12 | Non-mem \$18 | F18063AS

Tue, Oct 16 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5

**Green by Nature: Jack-O-Lanterns!**

Led by Judy Montgomery

& Courtney McKinley

Meets at Ashland

Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18034AS

Wed, Oct 17 | 10 am – 11:30 am | Ages 2-5

**Knee High Naturalists:**

**Fall Changes – Up High!**

Led by Karen Hammer

Meets at Abbott's

Mem \$4 | Non-mem \$7 | F18337AM

Thu, Oct 18 | 10 am – 2:30 pm | Adult 18+

**Historic Brandywine Ramble**

Led by Sally O'Byrne

Visit artist studios | Meets at Breck's Mill

Parking Lot (next to Montchanin Post Office)

Mem \$20 | Non-mem \$25 | F18203DC

Fri, Oct 19 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5

**Green by Nature: Gorgeous Gourds**

Led by Judy Montgomery

& Courtney McKinley

Meets at Ashland

Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18035AS

Fri, Oct 19 | 5 pm – 7:30 pm | Adult 21+

**Hike Your Brewshed:**

**Ashland to Dew Point Brewery**

Led by Courtney McKinley

1 mile hike of rugged terrain, 1<sup>st</sup> pint of beer included | Meets at Ashland, van transport back to Ashland provided

Mem \$30 | Non-mem \$35 | F18004AS

# Movies at the Mill

**Fri, Oct 12, 6 pm – 9 pm**

**Abbott's Mill Nature Center**



## An evening of short environmental films

**1<sup>st</sup> Dogfish Craft Ale or drink included**

**Food available**

**All Ages Welcome**

**General Admission: Adults \$25 | Students/Seniors \$10**

**VIP Admission: Adults \$50 (VIP includes the above plus: beer tastings, preferred seating, and a food voucher)**

**Learn more & register:**

**DelNature.org/Events**

Sat-Sun, Oct 20-21 | 8 am – 1 pm | Adult 21+

**20s and 30s Outsiders Club: Ricketts Glen Camping Trip**

Led by Annalie Mallon & Erynn DeGennaro

Van transportation from Ashland provided

Mem \$50 | Non-mem \$60 | F18005AS

Sun, Oct 21 | 11:30 am – 3:30 pm | Adult 18+

**Trails and Tales Bike Ride**

Led by Dakin Hewlett

Meets at DEEC

Mem \$25 | Non-mem \$30 | F18204DC

Tue, Oct 23 | 9 am – 4 pm | Adult 18+

**Big Tree and History Tour of New Castle County**

Led by Joe Sebastiani & Aaron Ferguson of Auburn Heights Preserve

Receive a free copy of the book

"The Big Trees of Delaware"

Van transportation from Ashland provided

Mem \$30 | Non-mem \$40 | F18006AS

# October

ASHLAND ■ ABBOTT'S ■ COVERDALE ■ DEEC  
Colors indicate site | Addresses for many sites on page 9



Kingfisher on a Limb  
by David Mellon

Tue, Oct 23 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5

### Green by Nature: Kingfishers and their Feathered Friends



Led by Val Walters  
Meets at DEEC  
Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18234DC

Wed, Oct 24 | 10 am – 11:30 am | Ages 2-5

### Knee High Naturalists: Fall Changes – Down Low!



Led by Karen Hammer  
Meets at Abbott's  
Mem \$4 | Non-mem \$7 | F18338AM

Wed, Oct 24 | 5 pm – 6 pm | Adult 18+

### Your Two Cents: Changing Opinions Through Media

Led by Laura Miller & Danni Van Drew  
Write a letter to the editor  
Meets at DEEC  
FREE for everyone | V18510DC  
Pre-registration required.

Thu, Oct 25 | 9 am – 1:30 pm | Adult 18+

### Mount Cuba to Ashland Loop Hike

Led by Joe Sebastiani & Mount Cuba staff  
Meets at Mount Cuba Center  
Mem \$30 | Non-mem \$40 | F18007AS  
To register, call Mount Cuba Center  
at 302.239.4244

Fri, Oct 26 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5

### Green by Nature: Kites!

Led by Neenah Newell & Shweta Arya  
Meets at DEEC  
Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18235DC

Fri, Oct 26 | 12 pm – 4:30 pm | Adult 18+

### Flint Woods to Granogue Hike and Lunch

Led by Joe Sebastiani & Michele Wales  
Strenuous 3-mile hike, includes gourmet lunch  
Meets at Flint Woods  
Mem \$35 | Non-mem \$50 | F18008AS

Tue, Oct 30 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5

### Green by Nature: L is for Leaves



Led by Judi Vanderwerff  
Meets at Coverdale  
Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18134CF

Wed, Oct 31 | 10 am – 11:30 am | Ages 2-5

### Knee High Naturalists: Bones



Led by Karen Hammer  
Meets at Abbott's  
Mem \$4 | Non-mem \$7 | F18339AM



Preschool details pages 10-11

## October Drop-in Programs

At Abbott's, Ashland, Coverdale, and DEEC. No pre-registration required. Free for members.  
Free for non-members except at Ashland, which has a trail fee – Adult: \$5, Child age 2+: \$3

**Guided Nature & Birding Hikes | Hawk Watch**

**Farm Market Days | Bird Banding**

**Meet Live Animals | Catch Critters with Dip Nets**

**Learn more: [DelNature.org/DropIn](http://DelNature.org/DropIn)**

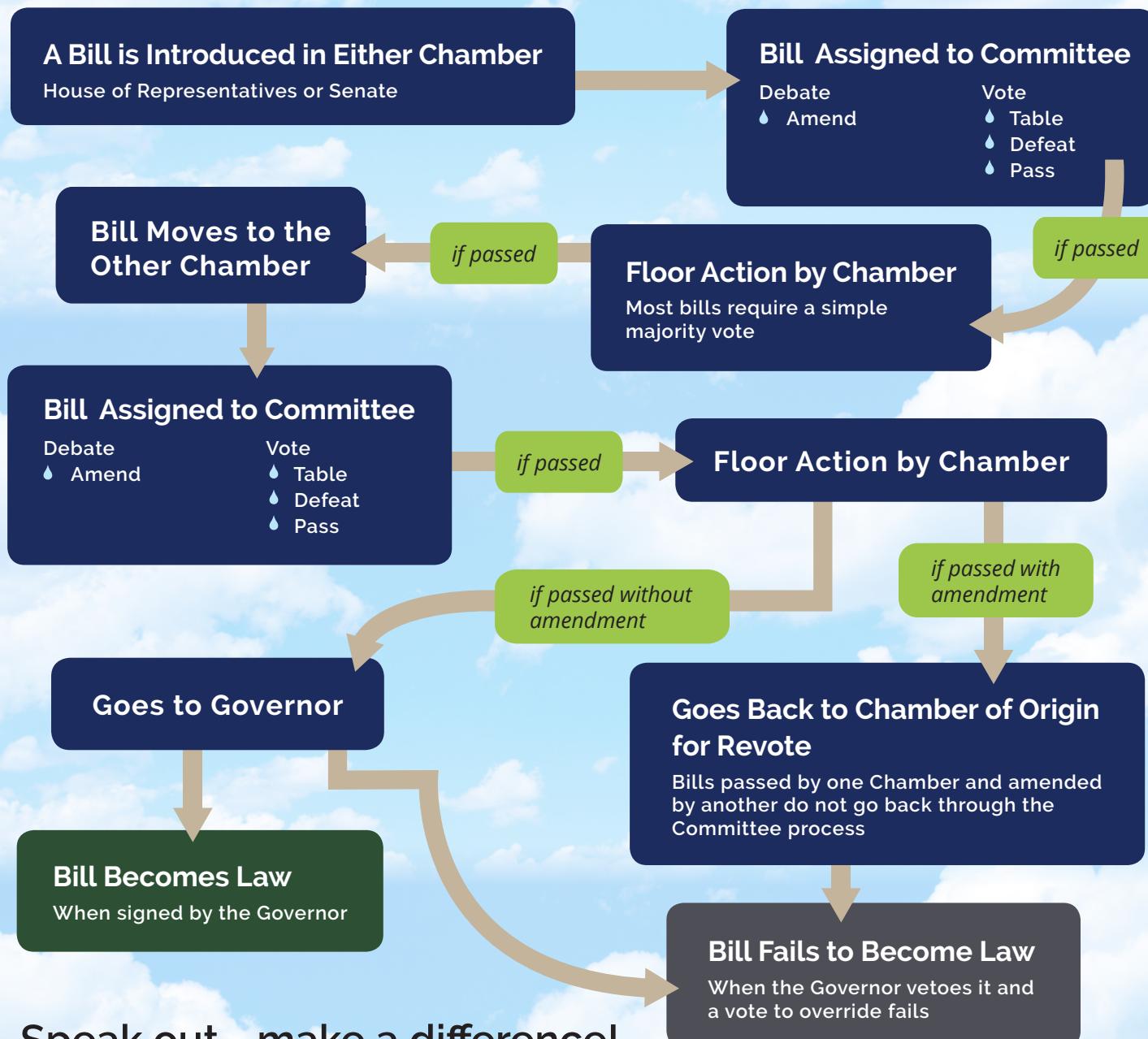


# Advocate for the Environment

The 149<sup>th</sup> General Assembly ended on a high note with \$10 million allocated to Delaware's Open Space Program; \$10 million to our Farmland Preservation Program; and \$10 million for Clean Water! Ensure this progress continues. Join us in 2019 for the 150<sup>th</sup> General Assembly and become an advocate for Delaware (and our nation's) environment!

Visit [DelNature.org/Advocacy](http://DelNature.org/Advocacy) to learn about our 2019 Issues and stay informed!

## How a Bill Becomes Law in Delaware



Speak out - make a difference!  
[DelNature.org/Advocacy](http://DelNature.org/Advocacy)

# November

Fri, Nov 2 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5

**Green by Nature: Turkey Tracks**

Led by Judi Vanderwerff

Meets at Coverdale

Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18135CF



Sat, Nov 3 | 4 pm – 6 pm | Adult 21+

**20s and 30s Outsiders Club: Chili Fall Hike**

Led by Annalie Mallon & Ashley Harrell

Traditional and vegetarian chili provided

Meets at Coverdale

Mem \$15 | Non-mem \$20 | F18102CF



Tue, Nov 6 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5

**Green by Nature: Marvelous Monarchs**

Led by Judy Montgomery & Courtney McKinley

Meets at Ashland

Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18036AS



Tue, Nov 6 | 10 am – 2:30 pm | Adult 18+

**Stroud Water Research Center Tour**

Led by Dakin Hewlett

Bring a bag lunch | Meets at DEEC

Mem \$20 | Non-mem \$30 | F18205DC



Wed, Nov 7 | 10 am – 11:30 am | Ages 2-5

**Knee High Naturalists: Deer Dears**

Led by Karen Hammer

Meets at Abbott's

Mem \$4 | Non-mem \$7 | F18340AM



Thu, Nov 8 | 6:30 pm – 9 pm | Adult 18+

**Cookbook Club: Chris Kimball's Milk Street: New Home Cooking**

Led by Michele Wales

Meets at Coverdale

Mem \$65 | Non-mem \$75 | F18103CF



Fri, Nov 9 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5

**Green by Nature: Animal Homes**

Led by Judy Montgomery & Courtney McKinley

Meets at Ashland

Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18037AS



Sat, Nov 10 | 3 pm – 6 pm | Adult 21+

**Walk Your Brewshed: Stitch House Brewery**

Led by Dakin Hewlett

1st beer flight provided, 2 mile walk

Meets at DEEC, van transportation back to DEEC provided

Mem \$30 | Non-mem \$35 | F18206DC



Mon, Nov 12 | 12 pm – 4:30 pm | Adult 18+

**Hoopes Reservoir Hike**

Led by Joe Sebastiani & Sally O'Byrne

Strenuous, 3-mile hike with some bushwhacking | Van transportation from Ashland provided

Mem \$25 | Non-mem \$35 | F18009AS



Tue, Nov 13 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5

**Green by Nature: Nature in our Neighborhood**

Led by Val Walters

Meets at DEEC

Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18236DC



Wed, Nov 14 | 9:30 am – 3 pm | Adult 18+

**Wilmington's Drinking Water, What's Up?**

Led by Sally O'Byrne

Follow water from Brandywine River to Porter

Filtration Plant to Hoopes Dam

Bring a bag lunch

Van transportation from DEEC provided

Mem \$15 | Non-mem \$25 | F18207DC

Wed, Nov 14 | 10 am – 11:30 am | Ages 2-5

**Knee High Naturalists: Turkey Talk**

Led by Karen Hammer

Meets at Abbott's

Mem \$4 | Non-mem \$7 | F18341AM



Fri, Nov 16 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5

**Green by Nature: Garden Games**

Led by Shweta Arya

Meets at DEEC

Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18237DC



Sat, Nov 17 | 2 pm – 4 pm | Family 6+

**Cooking and Baking With Pumpkins**

Led by Mary Boeni

Meets at Coverdale

Mem \$20 | Non-mem \$25 | F18166CF

## November Drop-in Programs

At Abbott's, Ashland, Coverdale, and DEEC. No pre-registration required. Free for members. Free for non-members except at Ashland, which has a trail fee – Adult: \$5, Child age 2+: \$3

**Guided Nature & Birding Hikes | Hawk Watch**

**Farm Market Days | Bird Banding**

**Meet Live Animals | Catch Critters with Dip Nets**

**Learn more: [DelNature.org/DropIn](http://DelNature.org/DropIn)**





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■ ASHLAND ■ ABBOTT'S ■ COVERDALE ■ DEEC

Colors indicate site | Addresses for many sites on page 9

**Tue, Nov 20 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5**

**Green by Nature: O is for Overalls** 

Led by Judi Vanderwerff

Meets at Coverdale

Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18136CF

**Wed, Nov 21 | 10 am – 11:30 am | Ages 2-5**

**Knee High Naturalists: Footprints** 

Led by Karen Hammer

Meets at Abbott's

Mem \$4 | Non-mem \$7 | F18342AM

**Tue, Nov 27 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5**

**Green by Nature:  
Pumpkin Seeds** 

Led by Judy Montgomery & Courtney McKinley

Meets at Ashland

Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18038AS

**Fri, Nov 30 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5**

**Green by Nature:  
Pebbles, Rocks, Boulders** 

Led by Judy Montgomery & Courtney McKinley

Meets at Ashland

Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18039AS

**Wed, Nov 21 | 10 am – 12 pm | Family**

**Talkin' Turkey**

Led by Courtney McKinley

Create a turkey centerpiece

Turkey snack included | Meets at Ashland

Mem \$9 | Non-mem \$14 | F18064AS



## Ranger Rick Magazines

Animal adventures, games, activities, and cool wildlife photos.

Plus, National Wildlife Federation will donate half of your subscription in support of Delaware Nature Society's educational programs when you visit:

[NWF.org/DelNaturekidsgift](http://NWF.org/DelNaturekidsgift)

**Bird Watching at  
DEEC's Visitor Center**  
by Dakin Hewlitt



# December



Coverdale Farm Preserve Education Building in Snow by Christi Leeson



Preschool details pages 10-11

**Sun, Dec 2 | 10 am – 11:30 am | Family 2+**

**“The Mitten”**

Led by Bea Kaplan  
Storytime and hike  
Meets at Coverdale  
Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18165CF

**Tue, Dec 4 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5**

**Green by Nature:  
Quiet...Sounds of the Marsh**

Led by DEEC staff  
Meets at DEEC  
Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18238DC

**Tue, Dec 4 | 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm | Adult 18+**

**Jump-start January:  
Prepare for the 150<sup>th</sup> General Assembly**

Led by Brenna Goggin  
Webinar | Online webinar  
FREE for everyone | V18509AS  
Pre-registration required

**Sat, Dec 8 | 1 pm – 4 pm | Family**

**Grains, Bread, and Butter**

Led by Mary Boeni  
Snack included | Meets at Coverdale  
Mem \$14 | Non-mem \$19 | F18164CF

**Sat, Dec 8 | 10 am – 12 pm | Family**

**Cookies, Crafts, and Cocoa with Santa**

Led by Courtney McKinley & Helen Fischel  
Meets at Ashland Lodge  
Adult participation required  
1st adult FREE, additional adult \$10  
Mem \$20/child | Non-mem \$20/child | F18068AS

**Sun, Dec 9 | 1 pm – 3 pm | Family**

**Gingerbread House for Birds**

Led by Judy Montgomery  
Create a house to take home, snack included  
Meets at Ashland  
Mem \$15/project | Non-mem \$25/project  
F18065AS

**Mon, Dec 10 | 3 pm – 6 pm | Adult 21+**

**20s and 30s Outsiders Club:  
Bucktoe Creek Campfire and Cocoa**

Led by Annalie Mallon & Erynn DeGennaro  
Hot dogs, cocoa, and cider included  
Meets at Bucktoe Creek Preserve  
Mem \$20 | Non-mem \$25 | F18010AS

**Tue, Dec 11 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5**

**Green by Nature: R is for Rest**

Led by Judi Vanderwerff  
Meets at Coverdale  
Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18137CF

**Tue, Dec 18 | 9:30 am – 11 am | Ages 2-5**

**Green by Nature: Shhhh...Sleep**

Led by Judy Montgomery  
& Courtney McKinley  
Meets at Ashland  
Mem \$6 | Non-mem \$10 | F18040AS

## December Drop-in Programs

No pre-registration required. This month's programs take place  
at DEEC – all are free for members and non-members.

### Meet Live Animals

**Learn more: [DelNature.org/DropIn](http://DelNature.org/DropIn)**



# Eco Tours

ECO TOURS ARE FOR MEMBERS ONLY – JOIN TODAY AT  
[DelNature.org/BecomeAMember](http://DelNature.org/BecomeAMember)

## Smith Island Kayaking Overnight

Led by Matt Babbitt

Sat, Oct 6, 2018  
– Sun, Oct 7, 2018

Call to register:  
**302.239.2334**

Explore this remote, historic watermen community nestled in the Chesapeake Bay, by paddle, boat, and fork! Kayak through the marshes connecting the island's 3 towns, discover the town's self-curated waterman's museum, and enjoy a traditional Smith Island dinner.

Visit [DelNature.org/EcoTours](http://DelNature.org/EcoTours) to learn more.

Price: \$225 | Balance due Sep 15



Photo by Pete McGowan of  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Northeast Region

## Fallingwater and the Laurel Highlands

Led by John Harrod  
& Dave Pro

Wed, Oct 10, 2018  
– Fri, Oct 12, 2018

Call to register:  
**302.239.2334**

Tour the Laurel Highlands of Pennsylvania, a region of beautiful mountains, forests, waterfalls, and lots of wildlife. Tour 2 Frank Lloyd Wright houses, Fallingwater and Kentuck Knob; bird banding at Powdermill Nature Reserve, and more.

Visit [DelNature.org/EcoTours](http://DelNature.org/EcoTours) to learn more.

Price: \$650 | Balance due Sep 5



## Ecuador: Birding the Andes and Choco

Led by  
Judy Montgomery

Mon, Nov 12, 2018  
– Wed, Nov 21, 2018

To register:  
**Holbrook.Travel/  
dens-ec18**

Come explore one of the planet's most incredible birding destinations – Ecuador! From the snow-capped volcanoes to the Choco bioregion, this delightful country is home to over 1,600 species of birds – one of the richest wildlife areas on earth. In partnership with Holbrook Travel.

Visit [Holbrook.Travel/dens-ec18](http://Holbrook.Travel/dens-ec18) to learn more.

Call **302.239.2334** to check in on availability.

Deposit to secure spot: \$350

Price: \$3,375 (double occ) | Single supplement: \$295



## Adirondack Skiing

Led by Dave Pro  
& Fiona Smith

Sun, Feb 3, 2019  
– Wed, Feb 6, 2019

Call to register:  
**302.239.2334**

New York's Adirondacks provide the ideal cross-country skiing and snowshoeing adventure and receive an average of 100 inches of snow each winter. Wonderful accommodations, and excellent food. Hit the trail right outside your doorstep. Price is for double occupancy.

Visit [DelNature.org/EcoTours](http://DelNature.org/EcoTours) to learn more.

Price: \$800 (double occ) | Single supplement: \$200

Deposit to secure spot: \$500 due Jan 3



# Garden for Water & Wildlife



Monarch Butterflies in  
Ashland Butterfly House  
by Christi Leeson

Butterflies, birds, and other wildlife are in decline in part due to habitat loss and pesticides. One-third of Delaware's wildlife species are under threat of extinction due to increased stress from invasive species and a changing climate. How we care for our home landscape can help protect native habitats and wildlife and ensures safe, clean drinking water for people. When we create healthy habitats, we support a healthy environment.

Household lawns cover 40 million acres – more than any commercial crop – accounting for 10 times more herbicide per acre than agribusiness. This is why Delaware Nature Society partners with the National Wildlife Federation to bring the Certified Wildlife Habitat® program to Delaware. This program provides official recognition for properties that provide food, water, cover, and places to raise babies for birds, bees, butterflies, and other wildlife, and use wildlife- and water-friendly gardening practices, helping to reverse the environmental issues we currently face.

Public property including, businesses, schools, churches, and parks, and many others can also be certified. Schools can certify for no charge.

### **Legislative Hall in Dover recently became the first state capitol to achieve Certified Wildlife Habitat status.**

Alice Mohrman, Education Coordinator of Delaware Nature Society, worked with Don Gerardi, DE Office of Budget and Management, and Justin King, DE Facilities Management, to prepare Legislative Hall for certification. The site is home to a variety of native trees and shrubs, including Tulip Poplar and Winterberry Holly, and is a short distance from the St. Jones River. The grounds crew is dedicated to sustainable practices that minimize the use of pesticides and herbicides, supporting healthy habitat and water quality for wildlife and people.

Following this landmark event, County Executive Meyer signed an executive order requiring the use of native species in landscaping projects on all county-owned property, encouraging native species county-wide. The signing took place on May 3, 2018, at Delaware Nature Society's annual Native Plant Sale at Coverdale Farm Preserve in Greenville, DE.

*The Certified Wildlife Habitat® program of Delaware Nature Society is supported in part by Delmarva Power and SUEZ in Delaware.*

### **Delaware Communities are becoming Certified Habitat Communities.**

When enough private yards and public lands have become certified, neighborhoods and communities can become certified as National Wildlife Federation Certified Habitat Communities. Delaware has already created three Certified Wildlife Communities: Townsend, Newark, and Slaughter Beach, and is currently in the process of certifying the Red Clay Valley Scenic Byway and Ardentown.

The scenic Red Clay Valley Scenic Byway comprises 28 secondary roads in the Red Clay Creek watershed, and is the first in the U.S. to be based on the watershed model. It is also an Important Bird Area (IBA), recognized for its high density of nesting Wood Thrush, nesting American Kestrel, and high numbers of migrating raptors in the fall. Because of these unique qualities, a group of residents partnered with Delaware Nature Society, Wild Birds Unlimited – Hockessin, National Wildlife Federation, Mt. Cuba Center, and Auburn Heights Preserve of Delaware State Parks to kickoff the certification process. This group's goal is to get the word out about how wonderful the Red Clay Valley is, and encourage people to attract and take care of wildlife such as butterflies, birds, and bullfrogs. **Visit [DelNature.org/RCVSB](http://DelNature.org/RCVSB)** for more information on the Red Clay Valley and a map of the certification area.

The requirements to become certified as a Community Wildlife Habitat include accumulation of points for community outreach and education, as well as a certain number of Certified Wildlife Habitats based on the population. As of July 15, 2018, nearly 80 properties in the Red Clay Valley Scenic Byway have been certified for a total of 125 certifications points (schools and public places earn more points). Twenty-five points are still needed to complete the certification.

### **Get involved!**

When you certify your land you have the ability to make a difference in our environment. Delaware residents who certify can request a free visit by a trained volunteer to answer your gardening for wildlife questions and get ideas. **Visit [DelNature.org/CWH](http://DelNature.org/CWH)** to complete the application online.

Already certified? Become a Habitat Steward and help others in your community create a Certified Wildlife Habitat of their own. **Visit [DelNature.org/HabitatSteward](http://DelNature.org/HabitatSteward)** to learn more.

## Volunteer Spotlight

# Seth Ross

Seth Ross, a former DuPont Company Engineer, has dedicated an incredible amount of his time toward improving Delaware's environment. In April of 2018, he was awarded Delaware Nature Society's Lifetime Achievement Award. Seth joins just a handful of recipients of Delaware Nature Society's most prestigious award. Past recipients of the award include Howard Brokaw, Russell Peterson, Norm Wilder, Winston Wayne, Peter Flint, Darwin Palmer, Lynn Williams, and Lorraine Fleming.

In 1997, Seth started volunteering with Delaware Nature Society on the Technical Advisory Committee for Soil and Water Stewardship. Not long after, he joined the Advocacy Committee, and, in 2003, his vast knowledge and enthusiasm got him elected as co-chair of the committee. Serving as both Advocacy Co-Chair and as a member of Delaware Nature Society's Board, Seth has represented the organization in a variety of capacities including on the Governor's Advisory Committee on Energy and the Citizen's Advisory Panel (CAP) for the different owners and operators of the Delaware City Refinery. Since 2015, Seth has served on the board of the National Wildlife Federation as

Region 2 Director, representing New York, New Jersey, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Washington, DC, and Delaware. In this role, Seth helps promote coordination and cooperation between affiliate organizations like Delaware Nature Society and the National Wildlife Federation board and staff.



Seth understands air quality, energy, and climate change issues, and his expertise has been invaluable to our organization. Because of this perfect combination of technical and environmental expertise, he is called on by environmental groups and industry leaders for consultation in reviewing permit applications, offering comments, and assisting in the development of organizational policies. Seth's great technical background, adaptability, and intelligence are just a few of his greatest qualities.

Seth's lifelong commitment to the environment has been exemplary and provides a critical model for both staff and volunteers affiliated with the organization. His expertise, skill set, and perspective have been critical to the success of Delaware Nature Society, and in raising the profile of our advocacy efforts.



## Volunteer. Make a difference.

Volunteers like you can help with greeting, office work, monitoring streams, and more.

[DelNature.org/Volunteer](http://DelNature.org/Volunteer)

# Seasonal Program Registration Form

Submit this form to: Ashland Nature Center, P.O. Box 700, Hockessin, DE 19707  
Or you may Fax: 302.239.2473 or email Candy@DelNature.org

More ways to register:  
DelNature.org/Programs  
302.239.2334 ext. 0

Person filling out form: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alt phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 OK to email me: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you find us? \_\_\_\_\_

Registrant's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date (if child): \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female  
Program title: \_\_\_\_\_ Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Fee: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Program title: \_\_\_\_\_ Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Fee: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Registrant's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date (if child): \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female  
Program title: \_\_\_\_\_ Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Fee: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Program title: \_\_\_\_\_ Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Fee: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

For additional programs, attach pages to this form.

## Required confidential medical and emergency information (for children under 18 not accompanied by parent/guardian)

### Allergies

None  Yes. List here: \_\_\_\_\_ (attach sheet if needed)

### Medications

None  Yes. List here: \_\_\_\_\_ (attach sheet if needed)

### Physical restrictions, emotional/behavioral exceptionalities, fears, etc.

None  Yes. List here: \_\_\_\_\_ (attach sheet if needed)

### Physician's name & phone #:

Medical insurance company: \_\_\_\_\_

### Policy #:

Yes  No: In case of emergency, I give permission to have my child, \_\_\_\_\_

receive first aid and be transported to the nearest hospital by professional, emergency personnel. I understand I will be financially responsible for the cost of such treatment.

Parent/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Child: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Child: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Child: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Child: \_\_\_\_\_ Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Payment Information (credit card information will be kept secure)

Enclosed for programs: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ + Memberships: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ = Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
I am paying by:  Check (payable to Delaware Nature Society)  Credit Card:  Visa  Mastercard  Discover  American Express  
Credit card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ (mm/yy) 3-digit Security Code (on back of the card): \_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## Policies

### Payments & Discounts

All programs must be paid in full at the time of registration either by check or credit card. We can't hold spaces pending receipt of payment. To receive member discount rate, your membership must be current through the date of your scheduled program. We reserve the right to charge the Non-member rate for programs that occur after the expiration date of your membership.

### Refunds and Cancellations

Requests for withdrawal 3 business days or more prior to the scheduled program date will be honored with no charge. A \$5 withdrawal fee will be charged for withdrawal requests less than 3 business days unless the slot is filled or at the discretion of the education staff. Programs may be canceled due to low enrollment. Full refunds will be issued for program cancellations.

### Inclement Weather

Programs will be held rain, snow, or shine. Please dress accordingly. In case of inclement weather, activities may be modified and moved indoors. Programs may be canceled (and rescheduled or refunded) due to severe weather at the discretion of our Education staff.

### Photographs/Video

Delaware Nature Society reserves the right to use any photos/video/artwork of program participants to promote our mission unless otherwise notified in writing.

# NATURE EXPLORER

Delaware Nature Society  
P.O. Box 700  
Hockessin, DE 19707



## Come Celebrate at Trailfest

Sat, Sep 22, 10 am - 2 pm | FREE - just show up!  
DuPont Environmental Education Center

Celebrate Delaware's new walkable, bikeable  
Markell Trail with live music, live animals,  
canoeing, craft beer, food trucks, and more.

**DelNature.org/Events**



This event is part of River Days, a four-week celebration of the Delaware River watershed featuring 23 environmental education centers. More than 15 million people rely on Delaware River waterways for clean drinking water. The region's waterways also provide crucial habitat for plant and animal life.