

## Support Friends of the Parks with your 2017 Membership

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Number in Family \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email (optional; for occasional announcements) \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you want your NEWSLETTER sent by email.

### Indicate your membership category:

\$10 Individual  \$15 Family  \$25 Sponsor  \$50 Super Sponsor  \$100 Benefactor  \$200 Big Benefactor  \$500 Major Benefactor

Make check payable to **Community Foundation for the Alleghenies** with Friends of the Parks on the memo line and mail to:

**Friends of the Parks, 1175 Hilltop Road, Indiana, PA 15701**

Or, you may now submit your membership via the internet by following these steps:

1. Go to the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies website at <https://cfalleghenies.org/donate>
2. Scroll down to the online donation form and click the dropdown in the “Select a Fund” box and select “Friends of the Parks (Indiana County),” then complete the rest of the form.

REMOVE HERE — TEAR ALONG DOTTED LINE

**YOUR MEMBERSHIP  
SUPPORTS OUR  
COUNTY PARKS AND  
TRAILS AND YELLOW  
CREEK STATE PARK.**

**THANK YOU!**

# Friends of the Parks 2017 Programs

This schedule available on-line at [www.indianacountyparks.org](http://www.indianacountyparks.org) by clicking on the Friends of the Parks link.

Date / time	Location
1/28/2017 Saturday 6:00 PM	Indiana Fire Association White Township Station, 1555 Indian Springs Road Indiana
2/3/2017 Friday 7:00 PM	Blue Spruce Park Lodge
2/11/2017 Saturday 10:30 AM	Blue Spruce Park Lakeside Center
3/4/2017 Saturday 1:00 PM	Courthouse Annex Meeting Room 827 Water Street Indiana
3/11/2017 Saturday 11:00 AM	Indiana Community Garden at Mack Park
3/11/2017 Saturday 2:00 PM	Kinter Farm Musser Road, Indiana
3/12/2017 Sunday 2:00 PM	Kinter Farm Musser Road Indiana
3/25/2017 Saturday 8:00 AM	Yellow Creek State Park Office
3/25/2017 Saturday 1:30 PM	Ghost Town Trail Heshbon Access
4/7/2017 Friday 7:00 PM	Yellow Creek State Park Environmental Learning Center
4/8/2017 Saturday 1:00 PM	Yellow Creek State Park Environmental Learning Center
4/21/2017 Friday 7:00 PM	Blacklick Valley Natural Area
4/23/2017 Sunday 2:00 PM	Blue Spruce Park Lodge
4/29/2017 Saturday 12:00 PM	Pine Lodge Pine Ridge Park
5/6/2017 Saturday 1:00 PM	Waterworks Conservation Area S. 6th Street Indiana

Program Title / Speaker	Description
<b>Friends Potluck Dinner &amp; South Africa Travelogue</b> — <i>Carl Luciano</i> —	Join us for our Potluck Dinner then enjoy a virtual visit courtesy of Carl Luciano to beautiful Southern Africa, a region of dramatic scenery, engaging wildlife and a dynamic, friendly society that is part European, part Asian and all African. This program will present highlights of a series of African travels since 2003 with an emphasis on familiar and not-so-familiar wild animal species. Please pre-register by calling 724-463-8636.
<b>Costa Rica: Rice, Beans &amp; Turtles, Oh My!</b> — <i>Jamie Douthit</i> —	Join Jamie Douthit and learn about Costa Rica's culture, history, and biodiversity. You will also get an in-depth look at sea turtle conservation efforts on the Caribbean coast. You will learn some typical Tico phrases, sample classic Costa Rican cuisine, and know more about sea turtles than you ever thought possible. ¡Pura Vida!
<b>Chili Walk to Warm Up the Winter Blues</b> — <i>Ed Patterson</i> —	Come to this kickoff event and learn about the Indiana County Walking Decathlon. Join Ed Patterson for a winter walk then warm up with a cup of chili. And you will earn your first stamp toward prizes. For complete information on all the Walking Decathlon programs contact Barb Hauge at <a href="mailto:bhaug@upstreetarchitects.com">bhaug@upstreetarchitects.com</a> or phone 724-422-1749.
<b>Soil, Seeds, Lights...Action!- Revisited</b> — <i>Jim Rogers</i> —	Starting your own garden seedlings is fun for the entire family. And you get to choose the varieties of fruits and vegetables from the hundreds that are available today. Learn sources, techniques, and tips on the equipment needed to grow healthy garden seedlings.
<b>How to Prune Your Fruit Trees and Shrubs</b> — <i>Dick Farabaugh &amp; Charlie Venturella</i> —	Learn the basics of pruning fruit trees and shrubs. See various pruning techniques and use of pruning tools demonstrated on trees and shrubs at the Indiana Community Garden. Pre-registration is required at 724-463-8636.
<b>Maple Sugaring at Kinter Farm</b> — <i>Kinter Family</i> —	Our very popular maple sugaring event. Come to the farm to see and learn all about maple sugaring. It's fun and educational for the entire family. Call 724-463-8636 if you need directions.
<b>Maple Sugaring at Kinter Farm</b> — <i>Kinter Family</i> —	A second opportunity to enjoy this popular family event.
<b>Bird Walk</b> — <i>Todd Bird Club</i> —	Join the Todd Bird Club as they look for migrating waterfowl on Yellow Creek Lake. The wide variety of water birds makes this one of the top five birding destinations in PA. We will meet at the Park Office and drive to several locations near the lake for short walks.
<b>Walking Through Time</b> — <i>Joan Hawk</i> —	Join professional geologist Joan Hawk for a walk through the geologic history of this area of the Ghost Town Trail. Learn how to “read the pages of the geologic books” by learning how to interpret the rock layers. For additional information contact Barb Hauge at <a href="mailto:bhaug@upstreetarchitects.com">bhaug@upstreetarchitects.com</a> or phone 724-422-1749.
<b>Creating Habitat for Wildlife: Wood Duck Boxes</b> — <i>Patrick Snickles &amp; Lisa Meadows</i> —	Learn how to create suitable habitat for Wood Ducks. Join Patrick Snickles, Wildlife Education Supervisor for the PA Game Commission, for a short discussion on ducks of Western Pennsylvania after which attendees will have the chance to build Wood Duck boxes for the park. Pre-register (required) and get important additional information by emailing Lisa at <a href="mailto:lmeadows@pa.gov">lmeadows@pa.gov</a> by April 1st.
<b>Finding Your Inner Child - Adult Salamander Walk</b> — <i>Lisa Meadows &amp; Ed Patterson</i> —	Remember the fun you had looking for salamanders, snakes and turtles as a kid? In this program you will have the opportunity to relive the days of your youth in a search of the wetlands and woodlands of Yellow Creek. This program is only for adults ages 18 and over. There will be a family salamander program later in the summer. Pre-register for the program by emailing Lisa at <a href="mailto:lmeadows@pa.gov">lmeadows@pa.gov</a> by April 1st.
<b>Skydance: The Dance of the Woodcock</b> — <i>Lisa Meadows</i> —	Spring is in the air as one of PA's most unusual birds starts its fascinating mating ritual by performing aerial acrobatics. Come join us for a short discussion and then a wildlife hike (up to 1 mile) to check out the awesome Woodcock in the Blacklick Valley Natural Area. You must pre-register for the program by emailing Lisa at <a href="mailto:lmeadows@pa.gov">lmeadows@pa.gov</a> by 4/17.
<b>A Tick In Time Saves Lyme</b> — <i>Anne &amp; Tom Simmons</i> —	Learn about the biology of the blacklegged tick, when and why it invaded western Pennsylvania causing a dramatic increase in Lyme disease cases, and how you can reduce your risk of exposure. This interactive program will be offered by researchers from IUP's Disease and Vector Ecology Laboratory.
<b>Morel Mushrooms: What, Where, When</b> — <i>Bob Sleigh and the Western PA Mushroom Club</i> —	Morels are one of the most sought after and elusive mushrooms. Slides will illustrate Morels as well as poisonous look-a-likes. Learn what Morels are, where to find them, and when. Proper handling, storing and cooking will also be covered. Pre-registration is required by calling 724-463-8636.
<b>Understanding the Urban Watershed</b> — <i>Katie Farnsworth</i> —	Indiana County faces many of the same problems with water runoff and water quality as our larger urban neighbors. Come learn about the Marsh Run monitoring program, how small urban streams react to storm events, and what we can do to help reduce impacts on Marsh Run. Observe hands-on demonstrations of stream monitoring methods, a stream table to learn how streams work, and more!

5/13/2017 Saturday 9:00 AM	Yellow Creek State Park Boat Rental Area
5/13/2017 Saturday 10:00 AM	Rexis Branch Ghost Town Trail
5/14/2017 Sunday 2:00 PM	Yellow Creek State Park Environmental Learning Center
6/3/2017 Saturday 2:00 PM	Yellow Creek State Park Office
6/4/2017 Sunday 2:00 PM	Blue Spruce Park Pavilion #3
6/10/2017 Saturday 9:00 AM	Yellow Creek State Park Environmental Learning Center
6/16/2017 Friday 6:30 PM	Indiana Community Garden at Mack Park
6/17/2017 Saturday 2:00 PM	Yellow Creek State Park Environmental Learning Center
6/24/2017 Saturday 7:30 PM	Yellow Creek State Park North Shore Pavilion
7/1/2017 Saturday 10:00 AM & 1:00 PM	Yellow Creek State Park Day Use Area Boat Rental
7/8/2017 Saturday 11:00 AM & 1:00 PM	Yellow Creek State Park Woodland Pavilion
7/15/2017 Saturday 10:00 AM	Donley Property on Five Points Road
7/22/2017 Saturday 10:00 AM	Yellow Creek State Park Environmental Learning Center
7/22/2017 Saturday 1:00 PM	Yellow Creek State Park near the Lakeview Pavilion
7/29/2017 Saturday 1:00 PM	Yellow Creek State Park Environmental Learning Center
8/5/2017 Saturday 7:30 PM	Blue Spruce Park Lakeside Center

<b>International Migratory Bird Day Cruise</b> — <i>Lisa Meadows</i> —	International Migratory Bird Day is a great way to celebrate the return of many Pennsylvania birds. Join Park Educator Lisa Meadows on an exciting boat ride around Yellow Creek Lake to learn about the spring migration and go bird watching. To pre-register (required) and get important additional information email Lisa at <a href="mailto:lmeadows@pa.gov">lmeadows@pa.gov</a> .
<b>Now You See Them — Spring Ephemeral Plant Walk</b> — <i>Jerry Pickering</i> —	Join botanist Jerry Pickering for a spring wildflower walk along the Rexis Branch of the Ghost Town Trail. Learn to identify some of the special traits of these unique plants that are only around for a short time each spring. For additional information contact Barb Hauge at <a href="mailto:bhaug@upstreetarchitects.com">bhaug@upstreetarchitects.com</a> or phone 724-422-1749.
<b>Mother's Day Wildflower Walk &amp; Tea</b> — <i>Cindy Rogers</i> —	Join Cindy for a walk to identify the wildflowers growing in the area and learn about their uses. After the walk enjoy treats and beverages using some of the plants you've just seen. Please pre-register by calling 724-357-7913.
<b>Salamander Safari</b> — <i>Lisa Meadows</i> —	Join Park Educator Lisa Meadows to explore Laurel Run for salamanders and other critters. Wear shoes that can get wet. Great fun for the whole family. Pre-registration is required at <a href="mailto:lmeadows@pa.gov">lmeadows@pa.gov</a> .
<b>Identifying Common Trees of Western PA</b> — <i>Mike Tyree</i> —	Join Mike Tyree for a light walk on the trails around Blue Spruce Park. The primary focus will be on identifying trees, shrubs, and vines common to western PA using a local dichotomous key. In addition, Mike will discuss the economic, ecological, and cultural value of these plants.
<b>Family Fishing</b> — <i>Mandy Smith &amp; Lisa Meadows</i> —	Discover how much fun family fishing can be while you learn basic fishing skills. You'll have the opportunity to fish without a license and all equipment will be provided. The “catch?” Adults must bring a child and children must bring an adult. You must pre-register by Saturday, June 3 at <a href="http://www.fishandboat.com/calender.htm">www.fishandboat.com/calender.htm</a> or by calling Mandy Smith at 814-443-9841.
<b>Family Fun at the Indiana Community Garden</b> — <i>Chloe Drew &amp; Kay Snyder</i> —	See what's growing at the Indiana Community Garden and get answers to gardening questions. Learn about plants, bugs, worms, bats, composting, garden goodies, rain barrels, and more through hands-on activities for all ages. Enjoy music and food samples!
<b>The Buzz About Bees</b> — <i>Nathan Williams</i> —	Honeybees are fascinating and important insects that produce honey and other products we use. They also pollinate many fruit and vegetable crops important to us. Spend the afternoon with beekeeper Nathan Williams and learn about keeping bees, the equipment used, the products bees produce, and some of the current challenges in beekeeping.
<b>Campfire Songs, Food &amp; Fun</b> — <i>Anthony Frazier</i> —	Join Anthony Frazier for a good old fashioned summer's evening campfire and sing-along while you roast hot dogs and marshmallows on the fire. It's great fun for the entire family. For directions call 724-357-7913.
<b>Paddling the Lake</b> — <i>Lisa Meadows &amp; Emily Borcz</i> —	Join Lisa Meadows and Emily Borcz for kayak instruction and a 2 hour paddle on Yellow Creek Lake. For ages 12 and up. 17 and under must be accompanied by an adult/guardian. Program limited to the first 16 people for each time period. You must pre-register at <a href="mailto:lmeadows@pa.gov">lmeadows@pa.gov</a> and indicate if you will need to use our kayaks.
<b>Intro to Archery for Adults and Youth Archery</b> — <i>Brittany Smith &amp; Lisa Meadows</i> —	In the 11 AM session adults 18 and up are invited to learn the basic skills and proper techniques to safely enjoy the sport of archery. In the 1 PM session kids 9 to 14 will learn the basic skills and proper techniques from certified NADA instructors. Both sessions require pre-registration by email to Lisa at <a href="mailto:lmeadows@pa.gov">lmeadows@pa.gov</a> or by calling 724-357-7913 by July 3rd.
<b>Landscaping for Wildlife with Native Plants</b> — <i>Ed Donley</i> —	Experience a home landscape that is designed to benefit wildlife, including ponds, meadows, flower beds, and a bog garden. Learn how native plants support pollinators, caterpillars, birds, and small mammals. Discover ways to make your own home landscape an integral part of nature's food web. Take home some free native flower seedlings to enhance your own garden. Please pre-register at 724-463-8636.
<b>Raising Backyard Chickens</b> — <i>Andrew Rusko &amp; James Tweardy</i> —	Master Gardener Andrew Rusko and Park Manager James Tweardy will share their experiences raising backyard chickens. Get tips and advice on proper nesting boxes, feeding, how to clean eggs, and much more. We will then visit fluffy, friendly Cochon chickens in their backyard next door.
<b>Orienteering</b> — <i>Jim Wolfe</i> —	Join Jim Wolfe for an introduction to using a detailed map and compass to find your way around the woods looking for marked locations. This is followed by an orienteering exercise (sort of like a treasure hunt in the woods). The instruction will take about 30 minutes; the exercise about 60.
<b>Flowers, Plants, and Trees: How to be a Pollinator's Best Friend</b> — <i>Sue Weiland</i> —	Join PSU Master Gardener Sue Weiland and Park Educator Lisa Meadows to learn how to attract pollinators like butterflies, bees, insects, and birds to your back yard using native flowers, plants, and trees. There will be a short classroom discussion and then a tour of the Native Flower Garden at the ELC. This is a general public program.
<b>Creatures of the Night: Bats</b> — <i>Lisa Meadows</i> —	What goes bump in the night? Certainly not bats! Learn how bats use their amazing adaptations to fly through the night and never bump into a single object. And learn how bats save people from harm in some astonishing ways! After a short lecture we will go out into the park to look for some of our fast flying friends! Please bring a flashlight. This program is for age 8 and up.

8/19/2017 Yellow Creek State Park  
Saturday Woodland Pavilion  
1:00 PM  
& 2:30 PM

8/26/2017 White Township  
Saturday Municipal Building  
10:00 AM 950 Indian Springs Road  
Indiana

9/2/2017 Eliza Furnace  
Saturday Vintondale, PA  
1:00 PM

9/7/2017 Yellow Creek State Park  
Thursday Boat Rental Area  
5:30 PM

9/9/2017 Blue Spruce Park  
Saturday Lakeside Center  
7:00 PM

9/16/2017 Yellow Creek State Park  
Saturday Environmental  
10:00 AM Learning Center

9/23/2017 Yellow Creek State Park  
Saturday Environmental  
1:00 PM Learning Center

10/8/2017 Yellow Creek State Park  
Sunday Day-Use Area  
1:00 PM Boat Rental

10/14/2017 Yellow Creek State Park  
Saturday by the Lakeview Pavilion  
10:00 AM

10/21/2017 Yellow Creek State Park  
Saturday Environmental  
10:00 AM Learning Center

**Snakes, Turtles, and Lizards of PA** — *Eric Vogel* — Eric Vogel will present a special program on some of our state's fascinating reptiles including snakes, turtles, and lizards. Live reptiles will be on hand so don't miss out on the chance to see these cool animals up close and personal. There will be a kids program from 1:00-2:00 pm and an adult program from 2:30-3:30 pm.

**Rain Garden Tour and More** — *Stormwater Education Partnership* — Join us for a guided tour of White Township's rain garden. See first-hand how rain gardens and other options can help soak up rainwater runoff. Learn which plants work well and how to manage them as they grow. Check out displays showing various ways to prevent stormwater pollution on your property. Rain or shine, so wear appropriate clothing!

**Tall Timber: Our Area's Lumbering Heritage** — *Van Wagner* — Join us as singer, songwriter, storyteller, and historian Van Wagner reviews the past, present, and future of Pennsylvania's timber heritage. Van will cover how timber was harvested over the past several centuries and most importantly who harvested it. He will also demonstrate tools spanning 200 years of logging history.

**Evening Paddle** — *Lisa Meadows* — Join Park Educator Lisa Meadows for an evening paddle on the lake. To pre-register (required) and get important information including age restrictions, email Lisa at limeadows@pa.gov. If you can't access email call 724-357-7913.

**Owl Prowl** — *Lisa Meadows* — Learn about the wonderful owls that prowl the night woods in Pennsylvania. After a short discussion we will leave the Lakeside Center to search for these night flying creatures. Bring a flashlight if you have one and be sure to dress for the weather.

**Turning Timbers** — *Chris Weiland* — Join artist & woodworker Chris Weiland for a demonstration of carving and turning on the lathe using wood harvested from the park's fallen trees. Chris will be creating a series of sculptural planters and pedestal bases using a unique lathe especially constructed for turning large timber.

**Plants on the Move** — *Erin Janetski* — Join naturalist Erin Janetski for a unique and fun look at how plants spread their seeds. This program begins indoors learning about the parts of a plant and different forms of seed dispersal. Then go outside on a hike to look for different plants and seeds. This program is geared for elementary-aged children but is fun and educational for all ages.

**Fall Foliage by Boat** — *Lisa Meadows* — Spend the afternoon on a leisurely tour to see the spectacular fall scenery around Yellow Creek Lake. To pre-register (required) and get important information including restrictions email Lisa at limeadows@pa.gov. If you don't have access to email call 724-357-7913.

**Autumn Tree Walk** — *Mike Tyree* — Join IUP Professor Mike Tyree for a guided hike at Yellow Creek State Park to see the beautiful colors of our woods. Pennsylvania is considered one of the premier places to see autumn colors at their peak. Mike will guide park visitors on a moderately challenging two mile hike on the Ridge Top Trail. Meet next to the Lakeview Pavilion in the Day Use Area. This hike is weather dependent. Recommended for ages 8 and up.

**Holiday Greenery Workshop** — *Sue Weiland* — Create a centerpiece for your home from local greens and dried plant materials from last summer's garden (material provided or bring your favorites to share). Festive yet natural, you will assemble your individual arrangements under Sue's guidance. Get yourself into the holiday mood. Workshop limited to the first 12 adults who register. You must pre-register for the program by emailing Lisa at limeadows@pa.gov before 10/16/2017.

## Information About the Programs

**Who can attend the programs?** We welcome families and individuals. Most programs can accommodate organized groups — please call to see if space is available.

**Must I register?** Knowing how many people will attend helps us to prepare the best program for you. Some programs have limited space, therefore only registered persons may attend. If a program is cancelled, we will make every effort to contact those registered. Email the address or call the number indicated in the program description to register.

**How long are the programs?** Programs usually last from 1 to 2 hours, unless noted.

**How should I dress?** Dress appropriately for the outdoors and for walking. Most programs are held regardless of the weather.

**Is there a fee?** Programs are offered free of charge unless indicated.

**How do I get there?** Directions to various program locations are available at indianacountyparks.org. Follow the link to Friends of the Parks or get directions to program sites by calling 724-463-8636.

**Friends of the Parks** is a volunteer, non-profit organization dedicated to providing quality environmental education programs in the Indiana County Parks & Trails and Yellow Creek State Park.

**Program Suggestions.** If you have a program idea or would like to present a program for Friends of the Parks, please call Indiana County Parks & Trails at 724-463-8636 with your suggestion.

**For additional information  
or to pre-register for a program, call:**

**For Yellow Creek State Park programs:**  
(724) 357-7913

**Additional program listings for Yellow Creek can be  
found each week in the Indiana Gazette or at  
[www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/findapark/yellowcreek](http://www.dcnr.state.pa.us/stateparks/findapark/yellowcreek)**

**For Indiana County Parks & Trails programs:**  
(724) 463-8636

**Our newsletters and schedule are available under Friends  
of the Parks at [www.indianacountyparks.org](http://www.indianacountyparks.org)**

**Find us on Facebook and 'like us' if you would like a  
weekly reminder of upcoming programs.**

Support for **Friends of the Parks** comes from organizations, businesses, and individuals like yourself who care about quality environmental programming for Indiana County. Your support is vital to helping us accomplish our goal.

*Photos courtesy of Ed Patterson, Jim Reber and  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service*

FRIENDS OF THE PARKS  
www.indianacountyparks.org  
Indiana County Parks Yellow Creek State Park

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FRIENDS OF THE PARKS  
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