

Support Friends of the Parks with your 2019 Membership

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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 submit your membership via the internet by following steps 1 & 2 or by scanning this code:

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.



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

THANK YOU!

Friends of the Parks 2019 Programs

This schedule available on-line at www.indianacountyparks.org by clicking on the Friends of the Parks link.

Date / Time	Location	Program Title / Speaker / Description
1/26/2019 Saturday 6:00 p.m.	Indiana Fire Association White Township Station, 1555 Indian Springs Road, Indiana, PA 15701	Memorable Experiences Around the World — <i>Rebecca Sterley</i> — Join us for our annual potluck dinner as we travel along to Australia, Costa Rica, Iceland, Mongolia, New Zealand and the western United States. Pre-register by calling 724-463-8636.
2/8/2019 Friday 7:00 p.m.	Blue Spruce Park Lodge	What’s in a name? Discovering new species in Central America — <i>Josiah Townsend</i> — Join Dr. Josiah Townsend for a presentation and discussion of recently discovered new species, including details of the art of naming new species to science. He will use examples from researchers’ work as it relates to land and water rights conflict zones, environmental martyrs, and traditional indigenous regions in Honduras and Nicaragua.
2/9/2019 Saturday 10:00 a.m.	Blue Spruce Park Lakeside Center	Chili Walk to Warm Up the Winter Blues — <i>Barb Hauge</i> — Join us for a winter walk, then warm up with a cup of chili. Earn your first stamp toward prizes. For information on all the Decathlon programs, contact Barb Hauge at bhaug@upstreetarchitects.com or visit Indiana County Walking Decathlon on Facebook.
2/15/2019 Friday 7:00 p.m.	Blue Spruce Park Lodge	Trekking to Mount Everest Base Camp — <i>Laura Yevchak</i> — Often dubbed “The Steps to Heaven,” the trek to Mount Everest’s base camp is a majestic journey through the highest mountain region in the world. Join our speaker as she recounts the two-week trekking adventure to base camp: traveling through mountain towns, meeting interesting people, visiting Buddhist temples, traversing suspension bridges, waving to yaks, eating Nepalese cuisine, and — of course — seeing some exquisite mountain views.
3/2/2019 Saturday 10:00 a.m.	Courthouse Annex Meeting Room 827 Water Street Indiana, PA 15701	Good Worms Versus Bad Worms — <i>Julie Baker and Jim Woodard</i> — Join Penn State Master Gardeners Julie Baker and Jim Woodard as they demonstrate how you can use “good” worms for indoor, odorless composting. You will learn how to set up your own worm composting bin to make nutritious compost for your garden, using just table scraps. We will contrast these “good” worms with an invasive worm, the Asian crazy worm or Alabama jumper, that is threatening forest regeneration with its voracious appetite.
3/8/2019 Friday 7:00 p.m.	Blue Spruce Park Lodge	Hawaii: Old and New — <i>Ellen Chinn</i> — Learn about the natural history of the Hawaiian Islands, including the recent volcanic activity on the Big Island. See lush jungle, ocean views, colorful fish, swimming with turtles, and much more.
3/9/2019 Saturday 2:00 p.m.	Kinter Farm, 2440 Musser Road, Indiana, PA 15701	Maple Sugaring at Kinter Farm — <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.
3/10/2019 Sunday 2:00 p.m.	Kinter Farm, 2440 Musser Road, Indiana, PA 15701	Maple Sugaring at Kinter Farm — <i>Kinter Family</i> — A second opportunity to enjoy this popular family event.
3/16/2019 Saturday 7:00 p.m.	Yellow Creek State Park Environmental Learning Center	Big Night for Salamanders — <i>Lisa Meadows & Ed Patterson</i> — Cool, wet spring nights are a great time to see the salamander migration at Yellow Creek State Park. Come join us for a short presentation on our springtime salamanders and then drive over to the park to check out their migration to vernal pools. Please dress for the weather, wear waterproof shoes, and bring a flashlight. This program is for ages 10 & up. You must pre-register by emailing Lisa Meadows at limeadows@pa.gov .
3/23/2019 Saturday 10:00 a.m.	Blue Spruce Park Lodge	Introduction to Beekeeping — <i>Nathan Williams</i> — Beekeeping can be a fascinating hobby that can be started at anytime in your life. There are several things to consider before getting started. Join beekeeper Nathan Williams and learn about keeping bees, the equipment used, the products bees produce, and some of the current challenges involved in beekeeping.
3/23/2019 Saturday 1:00 p.m.	Indiana Community Garden at Mack Park	How to Prune Your Fruit Trees and Shrubs — <i>Dick Farabaugh and Charlie Venturella</i> — Penn State Master Gardeners Dick Farabaugh and Charlie Venturella will teach the basics of pruning fruit trees and shrubs. Learn about various pruning techniques, as well as the use and care of pruning tools, on trees and shrubs at the Indiana Community Garden. Pre-registration is required by calling 724-463-8636.
3/30/2019 Saturday 8:00 a.m.	Yellow Creek State Park Office	Bird Walk — Todd Bird Club — <i>Margaret & Roger Higbee</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. Bring your binoculars and bird books, or use ours.

Date / Time	Location	Program Title / Speaker / Description
4/6/2019 Saturday 1:00 p.m.	Yellow Creek State Park Environmental Learning Center	Finding Your Inner Child - Adult Salamander Walk — <i>Lisa Meadows & Ed Patterson</i> — Did you love jumping in the creek as a kid and looking for salamanders, turtles, and snakes? In this program, you will have the opportunity to relive those days of your youth in search of the wetlands and woodlands of Yellow Creek. This program is only for Adults, age 18 and over. There will be a family salamander program later in the summer. Pre-register for this program by emailing Lisa Meadows at limeadows@pa.gov by 4/2/19.
4/7/2019 Sunday 1:00 p.m.	Yellow Creek State Park North Shore Pavilion	Nature Photography: Learning to See — <i>Cheri Widzowski</i> — Want to improve your nature photography? More important than expensive equipment is the ability to see the world around you. Join a biologist/photographer on a walk through the woods and learn to look for those photographic treasures hiding in plain sight. There will be a brief presentation followed by a nature walk. Bring whatever gear you are comfortable with, even if it’s just a cell phone and be sure to dress for the weather. Please pre-register by emailing Lisa Meadows at limeadows@pa.gov
4/13/2019 Saturday 7:00 p.m.	Yellow Creek State Park Environmental Learning Center	Skydance: The Dance of the Woodcock — <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 1.5 miles) to check out the awesome Woodcock at Yellow Creek State Park. This program is recommended for ages 8 and up. Please dress for the weather, wear long pants, hiking shoes, and bring a flashlight.
4/26/2019 Friday 6:00 p.m.	Indiana Community Garden at Mack Park	Kids and Teens Gardening Veggies — <i>Chloe Drew</i> — For teens and youth ages 7 and older: Learn the basics of starting your own vegetable garden with a focus on sustainable and organic practices. Learn about choosing the correct plants and how to use resources on hand to grow the healthiest produce. Prepare to get dirty by helping to prepare a youth garden bed with spring plantings. Participants will take home a seedling of their own. Please pre-register by calling 724-463-8636.
4/27/2019 Saturday 12:00 p.m.	Pine Lodge, Pine Ridge Park	Morel Mushrooms: What, Where, When — <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 at 724-463-8636. Directions to the Lodge are at http://indianacountyparks.org
5/4/2019 Saturday 1:30 p.m.	Blue Spruce Park Lodge	Introduction to Reptiles and Amphibians of PA — <i>April Claus</i> — Join Naturalist April Claus as she introduces you to things that creep and slither. This hands-on interactive program introduces you to the reptiles and amphibians of Pennsylvania. Meet and touch snakes, toads, turtles, and salamanders that are native to western Pennsylvania.
5/12/2019 Sunday 2:00 p.m.	Yellow Creek State Park Environmental Learning Center	Mother’s Day Wildflower Walk & Tea — <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 emailing Lisa Meadows at limeadows@pa.gov by 5/9/19.
5/25/2019 Saturday 1:00 p.m.	Yellow Creek Lakeview Pavilion	Orienteering — <i>Jim Wolfe</i> — This program teaches orienteering map reading, basic compass use and the sport of orienteering. This will be followed by an exercise in the park in which participants get to use their new skills in finding marked locations in the park. Pre-registration is required by contacting Lisa Meadows at limeadows@pa.gov . Meet next to Lakeview Pavilion. This program is geared for ages 10 to adult.
6/8/2019 Saturday 1:30 p.m.	Yellow Creek State Park Environmental Learning Center	Camping Candle Making Program — <i>Ned and Hannah Kimmel</i> — Ever wanted to learn how to make your own candles? Check out this fun program with our local candlemaker family: Ned and Hannah Kimmel. In this program, you will learn how to make candles using recycled items from around the house. Expect to get messy. Minimum age is 8. Parents or adult must accompany children/teens. Pre-registration is required for this program by emailing Lisa Meadows at limeadows@pa.gov by 6/5/19.
6/15/2019 Saturday 10:00 a.m.	Stake Church, South Harmony Road, Penn Run	Colonial Herb Garden — <i>Sue Weiland</i> — Join Penn State Master Gardener Sue Weiland to learn how colonists grew herbs to enhance their food and treat maladies, and how pollinators benefit from native herbs. We will meet at the Stake Church Herb Garden, located across from Stake Church off South Harmony Road in Penn Run. Best suited for ages 8 and up. If you need directions, please email Lisa Meadows at limeadows@pa.gov before 6/13.

Date / Time	Location	Program Title / Speaker / Description
6/15/2019 Saturday 10:00 a.m. & 12 p.m.	Yellow Creek Boat Rental	Intro to Paddleboarding — <i>Lisa Meadows and Emily Borcz</i> — Ever wanted to try one of the newest outdoor activities: Paddleboarding! Join us for paddleboard instruction and a 1.5-hour tour of Yellow Creek Lake. The program is for ages 12 & up; 17 and under must be accompanied by an adult/guardian. The program is limited to 8 people each time period. Pre-register at limeadows@pa.gov and indicate if you need to use our paddleboards before 6/11/19.
6/21/19 Friday 6:30 p.m.	Indiana Community Garden at Mack Park	Family Fun at the Community Garden — <i>Chloe Drew</i> — See what's growing at the Community Garden, and get answers to gardening questions. Learn about plants, bugs, worms. Bats, composting and much more. Activities for all ages.
6/22/2019 Saturday 7:30 p.m.	Yellow Creek State Park Environmental Learning Center	Campfire Songs, Food & Fun — <i>Anthony Frazier</i> — Join Anthony Frazier on the guitar for a good old-fashioned summer's evening campfire and sing-along while we roast hot dogs and marshmallows provided by Friends of the Parks.
6/28/2019 Friday 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.	Blue Spruce Park Lakeside Center	Evening in the Garden — <i>Penn State Master Gardeners</i> — Enjoy seeing the hidden gems of the Blue Spruce Gardens along with some light refreshments. Come see many theme gardens and how to plant deer-resistant gardens, pollinator gardens, a butterfly nursery, four seasons garden, and many more. Penn State Master Gardeners will be available to answer your gardening questions.
7/9/19 Tuesday 6:00 p.m.	Blue Spruce Park Pavilion #3	Edible and Medicinal Plants — <i>Dana Driscoll</i> — Join herbalist and wild forager Dana Driscoll for a plant walk exploring the edible and medicinal plants at Blue Spruce Park. The walk will focus on abundant invasive plant species and how we might "eat the invaders." Foraging ethics, safety and preparation will also be discussed. Pre-register by calling 724-463-8636.
7/13/2019 Saturday 10:00 a.m.	Donley Property, 1243 Five Points Road, Indiana	Landscaping for Wildlife with Native Plants — <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 suburban or rural landscape an integral part of nature's food web. Take home some free native flower seedlings to enhance your garden. Please pre-register at 724-463-8636.
7/13/2019 Saturday 1:30 p.m.	Yellow Creek State Park Environmental Learning Center	Wild, Wild Western Pennsylvania: Pioneer Life in Indiana County — <i>Joe Hildebrand</i> — Life was never easy for the first settlers of Western PA. Volunteers from the Indiana County Historical & Genealogical Society will show aspects of pioneer life through demonstrations and stories. A program for the entire family.
8/2/2019 Friday 7:30 p.m.	Pine Ridge Park Pavilion #2	Creatures of the Night: Bats — <i>Lisa Meadows</i> — Check out the winged creatures of the night - bats! Bats have a double-sided reputation. They are excellent for ridding humans of night time pests, but are also greatly misunderstood. We will meet for a short lecture and then head out for a night of bug hunting. Please bring a flashlight and dress for the weather.
8/10/2019 Saturday 6:00 p.m.	Yellow Creek – Lakeview Pavilion	Maples, Oaks and Pines Evening Tree Hike — <i>Shane Miller</i> — Join us for an early evening summer hike to learn about tree ID with one of PA's noted botanists, Shane Miller. The hike will be approximately 1.5 miles on hilly terrain with multiple stops. Wear long pants, hiking shoes and bring water. Bug spray recommended. The program is weather dependent. Suitable for ages 10 & up.
9/14/2019 Saturday 7:00 p.m.	Blue Spruce Park Pavilion #3	Owl Prowl — <i>Lisa Meadows</i> — 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 and dress for the weather. This program is best suited for ages 6 and up.
9/20/2019 Friday 7:00 p.m.	Yellow Creek Environmental Learning Center	Wildlife Crime: One Warden's Perspective — <i>Patrick Snickles</i> — Game Warden Patrick Snickles will explain the history of conservation law enforcement in PA and discuss the progression of law enforcement techniques over the past century, current technologies used and how these techniques have been used to solve real life wildlife cases. This program is geared for adults. Pre-registration required by emailing Lisa Meadows at limeadows@pa.gov before September 17th.
10/5/2019 Saturday 1:00 p.m.	Yellow Creek State Park Environmental Learning Center	Fall Salamander Hike — <i>Lisa Meadows</i> — Spend a fall afternoon with us seeking out salamanders and any other amphibians and reptiles we might discover. Pre-register by emailing Lisa Meadows at limeadows@pa.gov
10/12/2019 Saturday 12:00 Noon	Noble Stein Brewing Levity Brewing & Disobedient Spirits	Spirits Along the Hoodlebug — <i>Various leaders</i> — A fundraising event for the Hoodlebug Trail — Join us for a fun walk to support the trail. Event begins at Noble Stein Brewing. Next, we'll travel to Levity Brewing and then walk the trail to Disobedient Spirits. Fee for the event is \$25 per person and includes shuttle, samples*, snacks, and beverage maker talk at each location. Register at disobedienspirits.com/hoodlebug. *Samples of alcohol available for those 21 years & older.
11/1/19 Friday 7:00 p.m.	Blue Spruce Park Lodge	Seeing the Forest through the Trees: Conserving Wildlife through Landscape-scale Forest Management in Pennsylvania — <i>Jeffery Larkin</i> — Populations of many eastern forest birds have been declining steadily for the past several decades. One factor contributing to these declines is the quality and quantity of breeding season habitat. Dr. Larkin will discuss the ecology and habitat needs of forest songbirds and the ongoing conservation efforts aimed at improving landscape-scale habitat conditions for at-risk species.

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, contact:

For Yellow Creek State Park programs:
limeadows@pa.gov

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

For Indiana County Parks & Trails programs:
(724) 463-8636 indparks@gmail.com

Our newsletters and schedule are available under Friends of the Parks at



www.indianacountyparks.org or by scanning this code

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.



FRIENDS OF THE PARKS



www.indianacountyparks.org

Indiana County Parks Yellow Creek State Park



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

FRIENDS OF THE PARKS
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Indiana, PA 15701