

Greenburgh Nature Center

E3 Newsletter - E-mailed, Economical & Environmental

JUNE 2011



Mission

Our mission is to educate and to promote conservation, research, and appreciation of nature and the environment while preserving the natural and historic character of our property.

Vision

The Greenburgh Nature Center will be the leader in nature and environmental education, igniting a lasting desire to preserve and protect the natural world.

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Scarsdale, NY 10583
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GNC Quick Links

→ TORTOISE & THE HARE WALKATHON TO BENEFIT THE NATURE'S DISCOVERY PLAYGROUND

When: Sunday, June 12th at 11am

Where: Greenburgh Nature Center

Why: Nature's Discovery Playground will be designed to engage children ages 2-12 with nature-themed equipment and areas.

What: 5K Woodland Walk or 1/2K for Tiny Tots. Make it fun and memorable--bunny ears, tortoise shells and super hero costumes welcome but not required.

Registration: \$10 per person ages 13 and over, \$5 per child ages 12 and under



REGISTER OR DONATE TODAY:

<http://www.firstgiving.com/greenburghnaturecenter>



To date, we have raised \$130,000 toward the \$225,000 needed for the Nature's Discovery Playground. The Town of Greenburgh gave a generous \$100,000 non-taxpayer contribution from parkland funds. We have great support from local businesses such as California Pizza Kitchen, Shoprite in Scarsdale and Whole Foods Market in White Plains.

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Green Tip
of the Month

SWITCH TO RENEWABLE ENERGY

Solar, wind, and
geothermal power are
renewable, sustainable,
safe and CLEAN
(no CO2 emissions!)

Our Supporters



CABLEVISION



California Pizza Kitchen has set aside Sunday-Tuesday, June 12-14 where 20% of the bill will be donated to the playground project from anyone who dines using the special certificate ([click here for certificate](#)). So print out your certificate and visit the California Pizza Kitchen on June 12-14!



The Nature's Discovery Playground is one part of our Core Master Plan to create a great, green future for everyone.

We can't do it without your help! We must raise an additional \$95,000. Please make a tax-deductible gift or participate in the Walkathon.

→ CAMP OFFERINGS

We still have a few spots available for our Summer Camp programs.

Critter Camp
(July 11th-15th) **FULL**

Eco-Travel Camp (July 18th-22nd) - for students entering grades 5-7; daily outings to some fantastic local nature preserves, with accompanying activities such as fishing, hiking and beachcombing.



Green Adventures (August 15th-19th) - for students entering grades 4-6; opportunities for children to learn more about environmentally-sustainable practices and visit destinations where such practices are in place, like an organic farm.

End-of-Summer Camps (August 22nd-25th & August 29th-September 1st) - for students entering kindergarten-grade 3; half-day program at the Nature Center.

For more information and to register, go to our website.

→ BUTTERFLIES ARE BACK



Join us for our second annual butterfly exhibit, which opens on June 18th and runs through September 30th. Located in our walk-through greenhouse, visitors will enjoy close up encounters with numerous varieties of native butterflies such as Monarchs, Painted Ladies and Swallowtails, and learn about their importance in nature.



You will also see first hand the life cycle of a butterfly, from egg and caterpillar stages, to chrysalis and butterfly, and how adult butterflies are wonderfully diverse in shape, size and color. In addition to just being beautiful and fun to watch, see how active butterflies are during the day. Watch them flying freely among the greenery, fluttering from blossom to blossom in search of nourishing nectar, resting in a shady spot to cool off or sipping water from a puddle.

Find out how you can help butterflies by conserving or restoring butterfly habitats. We strive to increase public awareness and education about nature and animals, through exhibits such as this one. Exhibit is appropriate for all ages. FREE with Museum admission.

Special thanks to Central Animal Hospital, Sprain Brook Nursery, Cablevision and Westchester County Parks for their generous support of this exhibit.

→ CONGRATULATIONS TO TRAVIS BRADY ON RECEIVING THE SOUTHERN WESTCHESTER BOCES AMERICAN DREAMER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD!

Travis Brady, Curator of Living Collections, was recognized at the 20th Annual American Dreamer Achievement Award Luncheon sponsored by BOCES of Southern Westchester on May 25th for his dedication in helping students with disabilities achieve their goals. Through his dedication, knowledge, and enthusiasm, Travis has given students with disabilities the opportunity to have an educational work experience at the Nature Center. We know that Travis always goes above and beyond in supporting the students with learning opportunities and we are so proud that he was recognized for his efforts.

→ MUSIC FEST WAS A HIT!

Despite the wet weather, a wonderful time was had by all at the 2nd Annual Music Fest. The seven scheduled bands played throughout the day and had the audience clapping, dancing and singing along. Sponsors including Shoprite of Scarsdale, Green Design Expo, Venture Portraits, Green Mountain Energy Company and Capital One Bank set up tables throughout the Manor House, Shoprite barbequed food near the front door, and a "make a little playground" craft was available for all children.



→ LOVE 'EM & LEAVE 'EM PROGRAM RECAP

Anne Jaffe Holmes, Special Projects Coordinator and a member of the Program Planning Committee for Conversations on Conservation, moderated a lively discussion on the "Love 'Em & Leave 'Em: Shredding Old Ideas About Leaf Removal" program at the Greenburgh Library on May 20th.

We applaud Anne on how instrumental she has been in this initiative and how her efforts have potential to help every taxpayer realize many benefits. Together with the Irvington Green Policy Task Force, the Nature Center has been promoting the program throughout 2011. The concept not only conserves the large amounts of time, energy, fuel and money expended to maintain our lawns, but it also improves the quality of the soil and aesthetics of the landscape. As stated on the Village of Irvington's website: "The sooner we start having everyone's leaves "mulched-in-place" and/or composted on-site, the sooner we can start saving tax dollars AND benefit our shared environment by eliminating the senseless trucking of valuable leaf resources into another county or community. It's a win-win situation."

Check out this [video](#) of Mary Jane Shimky's, Westchester County legislator, enthusiastic support.

More June Programs:

For Adults:

Wednesday, June 8, 2011 at 7:30PM - One More Time: Sacred Circle Dance and Pachamama Renewal! Join us for a unique and fun experience of earth-honoring rituals based in ancient traditions. Learn and dance the uplifting and healing Sacred Circle Dance (SCD) from Jean Ando. Since 2003, she has taught SDC to adults and teenagers throughout New York. Dancing in a circle is an ancient tradition common to many cultures for marking special occasions, strengthening community and encouraging togetherness. The steps are simple and easy to learn. Wear comfortable clothing and be ready to move! This free program, co-sponsored by the Lower Hudson Chapter of the Sierra Club, is designed for adults and high school students.

For Everyone:

Saturday, June 4, 2pm - FOR SHEAR PLEASURE - Bring the family to our Barnyard to share the experience of sheep shearing. Touch the wool and try your hand at carding, hand spinning and a 'wooly' craft project. Hang around to meet and help feed our other barnyard animals. FREE.

Saturday, June 11, 2pm - FAMILY COMPOSTING 101 - Hear about the benefits of composting and the secrets for success. Join Special Projects Coordinator Anne Jaffe Holmes to learn some simple how-to's of composting. Members FREE, Non-members \$6.

Sunday, June 19, 4pm - BOX TURTLES IN THE WILD - Did you know that box turtles reside on the grounds of the Nature Center? Join Senior Naturalist Dean Fausel to visit their habitat and to hear what we have discovered with over 30 years of monitoring. Meet and greet our Museum resident box turtles. Members FREE, Non-members \$6.

Visit the GNC on 