

calendar



September/October/November 2013

M = members | NM = non-members

FOR ALL AGES

Halloween Hikes & Hayrides

Friday, October 25 & Saturday, October 26 | 6:00 – 10:00 pm | \$7/person M; \$10/person NM (Hayride included); \$40 max per family

Take a magical walk through woods aglow with jack-o-lanterns, where you'll meet friendly talking animals eager to share their nocturnal ways. Enjoy a hayride along a woodland road, a campfire, s'mores, and pumpkin painting, too. Don't miss this unique family-favorite—a Schuylkill Center tradition. *We encourage you to reserve a hike time in advance; call 215-482-7300 x110.*



Introduction to Orienteering

Saturday, November 2 | 11:00 am – 12:30 pm | Free

Orienteering is an outdoor navigation sport where participants use a map and compass to find check points along a designated course. It's easy to learn and a fun mental and physical exercise for all ages. After leaders from the Delaware Valley Orienteering Association teach you the basics, you'll head outside to complete a beginner's course along our trails. Wear weather-appropriate clothing. *Registration is requested for large groups; drop-ins welcome.*

FOR ADULTS

Nature Uncorked!

A River Again: A Riverside Discussion

Sunday, September 8 | 7:30 pm | \$15 M; \$18 NM
(*Special location: 3 River Road, Roxborough*)

The Schuylkill River was once the nation's dirtiest river, writes Chari Towne in her new book, *A River Again*. Philadelphians mockingly dismissed their drinking water as "Schuylkill punch." Well, the river may have the last laugh, as it is now much cleaner than it was only 50 years ago. In a lovely outdoor riverside setting, Chari, a Schuylkill watershed specialist with the Delaware Riverkeeper Network, shares the story of the pioneering effort begun in 1948 to change the course of the river's ecology. Chari's book will be available for sale. *Registration required. (Event is rescheduled from the summer.)*



Restoration Volunteer Workdays

Third Saturday of each month: September 21, October 19 and November 16 | 10:00 am – 12:00 noon | Free

Get some fresh air and exercise while giving back to the land. Help us remove invasive plants from our forest, fix deer fences, or maintain the trails. Wear long pants and sturdy boots and bring a water bottle. Water refills and snacks are provided. Come to one workday or all of them!

Fall Bird Seed and Native Plant Sale

Saturday, September 28 | Plant sale runs 9:00 am – 2:00 pm; seed sale runs 9:00 am – 4:30 pm

Replenish your garden with berry-producing trees and shrubs and fall-blooming wildflowers—all perfect for migrating birds and insects. Save on quality bird seed, seed mixes and suet. Members receive 20% off seed and 10% off plants; non-members receive 10% off seed. *Ensure you get the quantity of bird seed you need: order in advance. Email cmorgan@schuylkillcenter.org or call 215-482-7300 x 127 by September 20, 2013.*



FOR ADULTS (continued)

Blue Banyan Yoga Retreat

Sunday, September 29 | 9:00 am – 12:00 pm | \$35 M; \$40 NM

The change in seasons can produce profound effects on our bodies and psyches. Tune into nature's flow and



rebalance your body and mind with this special yoga retreat. Sophie Simpson, founder of Blue Banyan Yoga in Mt. Airy, guides you through three hours of Asana (yoga postures), Pranayama (breath work) & mental quieting—all outdoors amid the beauty of nature. *Registration required.*

8th Annual Meigs Awards: Celebrating Leadership

Thursday, October 3 | 7:30 pm | Free

Join us for a special evening celebrating our present success and future promise. Over a coffee and dessert reception, we'll present the 2013 Henry Meigs Awards for Environmental Leadership and our annual Volunteer Service Awards. Then, Executive Director Mike Weilbacher will unveil our new Master Plan, highlighting our exciting goals for the future as we look toward our 50th anniversary in 2015.

A Writing Retreat in the Woods

Saturday, October 5 | 10:00 am – 4:00 pm | \$45 M; \$50 NM *Register by Sept. 5 to receive \$5 off!*

Let nature be your muse. Gather inspiration along our trails while you hone your craft with workshops presented by experienced, published teachers from Musehouse: A Center for the Literary Arts. Explore nature journaling, outdoor flash fiction, poetry, bookmaking with branches, and more. Novice and experienced writers welcome. *Registration required.*



Artist Reception

Sarah Kaizar: *In Danger* and Stacy Levy: *Rain Yard*

Saturday, October 12 | 4:00 – 6:00 pm | Free

Stacy Levy's *Rain Yard* is an interactive artwork and rain garden now on permanent display in our Discovery Garden. This innovative artwork serves both a practical function—mitigating stormwater runoff from our building—and an interpretive function—highlighting the critical role that soil and plants play in the water cycle.



There are currently 454 animal species on the U.S. endangered species list. Artist Sarah Kaizar showcases many of them with *In Danger*, a stunning collection of pen and ink

drawings. Her delicate renderings capture the animals' wide range of forms, patterns, textures and personalities, highlighting both their beauty and vulnerability. *In Danger* will be on view in our gallery October 3–January 4.



Sheep, Peninsular Bighorn, Sarah Kazair

Nature Uncorked!

Strange and Scary Animals: A Halloween Special

Tuesday, October 29 | 7:30 pm | \$15 M; \$18 NM

It's the season of all things ghoulish. We'll uncork a bottle of wine and share the weirdly wonderful stories of scary animals and plants: the lethal weed that killed Abe Lincoln's mother, the truth behind vampire bats, a massive wasp that feeds on—gulp!—tarantulas, and the world's deadliest animal. We'll also meet two very

EVENT INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

scee@schuylkillcenter.org | 215-482-7300 x110 | www.schuylkillcenter.org

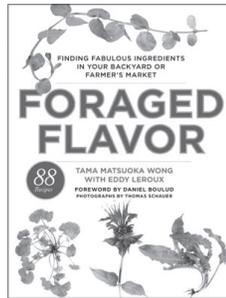


Halloween-ish characters—a vulture and a great horned owl—live and in person. It's a special adults-only celebration of that master of the macabre, Mother Nature. *Registration required.*

Foraged Flavor: A Workshop with Wild Forager Tama Matsuoka Wong

November 16 | 11:00 am | \$7 M; \$10 NM

Tama Matsuoka Wong is a professional forager and enthusiastic weed eater, supplying wild edibles to top restaurants in New York and Philadelphia. Her 2012 field guide and cookbook, *Foraged Flavor*, was a James Beard Foundation award nominee, and her work has been featured in the *The NY Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Martha Stewart Living*, and *Oprah Magazine*, and on NPR and CBS News. Taste samples of Tama's favorites and learn how to find and prepare common edible weeds yourself. *Registration required.*



JUST FOR KIDS

Saturdays @ SCEE

Every Saturday | 10:30 – 11:30 am | Free



Count on us for fun for your kids every Saturday morning. The first and third Saturdays are all about exploring nature: we'll study different objects from nature and take a walk in the woods. The second and fourth Saturdays feature read-aloud story time and old-fashioned games.

Day-Off Camps

No school? Get your kids out into nature!

For ages 5 – 12 | 8:00 am – 3:00 pm | \$45 M; \$55

Extended day until 6:00 pm is available for an additional fee of \$15/day. Pre-registration is required. Please visit our website for complete program descriptions: www.schuykillcenter.org.

Day-Off Camp: Hawk Mountain

Thursday, September 5 | *Special price \$65 M; \$75 NM*

Join us for an exciting field trip to Hawk Mountain. We'll hike to the summit in search of migrating bald eagles, hawks and falcons soaring above. You bring the hiking shoes; we'll provide the binoculars. *This trip will return at 5:00 pm and is limited to 25 participants.*

Day-Off Camp: Outdoor Challenge Games

Friday, October 11

Teamwork, exercise and FUN—this action-packed day has it all. It's the kids vs. the adults in a series of outdoor races, games and challenges where good teamwork is the key to success.

Day-Off Camp: What Makes the Fall Season?

Columbus Day: Monday, October 14

Why does the temperature drop in the fall? Why do leaves change colors? Where do all the animals of summer go? Learn all this and more as we explore our woods, looking for signs of the season.

Day-Off Camp: Animals as Architects

Election Day: Tuesday, November 5

Learn how animals can build amazing homes and tunnels without the use of hammers, saws or nails. We'll study various nest-building techniques, then head outside to try our hand at building from nature.

Day-Off Camp: Rocks & Minerals

Wednesday, November 6

Be a geologist for the day. We'll learn all about fossils, crystals and geodes, studying the Center's collection as well as gathering and breaking open our own samples.

Day-Off Camp: The Science of Food

Veterans Day: Monday, November 11

What makes dough rise? How does salt help make ice cream? Explore the science behind our food. Prepare to cook, eat and take home some of our experiments!