

MORAINES STATE PARK

NATURE PROGRAMS 2016



SALAMANDERS LIKE THE SPOTTED (TOP) & NORTHERN RED (BOTTOM) ARE COMMON THROUGHOUT THE PARK, BUT VERY HARD TO FIND.



Moraine State Park Interpretive & Environmental Education Programs for 2016

In this booklet, you will find a listing of programs being offered at Moraine State Park. **Some programs and times are subject to change.** We will also be offering additional programs that are not listed in the booklet. For the most up-to-date schedule information, check for interpretive schedules posted on our bulletin boards located throughout the park. You can also check the DCNR website at www.visitPAparks.com. If you are using the website, click on the Calendar of Events at Moraine State Park. Check us out on **Facebook** at **Moraine State Park!**

Park History

Moraine State Park is located in Butler County and is named after the rocks, gravel, and sand deposited by the Wisconsin Ice Sheet over 20,000 years ago, which is called a moraine. Moraine State Park contains gently rolling hills, lush forests and sparkling waters that disguise a land that has endured the effects of continental glaciers and massive mineral extraction. Each year over one million people visit the 16,725-acre park, yet never realize that many people helped restore the park from prior coal mining and oil and gas drilling practices. Today, the park is an outstanding example of environmental engineering achievement. Our main attraction is the manmade Lake Arthur, a 3,225 acre lake, which resembles a miniature replica of a glacial lake that was here over 140,000 years ago, called Lake Watts.

Questions and Information

For more information contact the Park Office at (724) 368-8811. Hours of operation are from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM Monday through Friday and is open seven days a week from Memorial Day to Labor Day from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM.

Access for People with Disabilities:

If you need an accommodation to participate in park activities due to a disability, please contact the Park Office or the Pennsylvania Bureau of State Parks at: 1-888-PA-PARKS (voice), 1-888-537-7294 (TTY), 1-888-558-2711 (international TTY), or 1-800-654-5984 (PA AT&T Relay Service). The Pennsylvania Bureau of State Parks will gladly discuss how to accommodate your needs. This publication text is available in alternative formats. With at least three days notice, interpreters for people who are deaf or hard of hearing are available for educational programs.

Get Outdoors PA Initiative

Get Outdoors PA programs introduce people to recreational activities such as hiking, kayaking, snowshoeing, fishing, or camping. Activities are paired with an interpretive message and offered by park staff or in partnership with another organization. Approximately 1000 programs are being offered statewide per year. For more about the program and to see scheduled events, go to www.getoutdoorspa.org.

Programming for 2016

Saturday, Jan 9, 2016 - Cross Country Ski Workshop
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM – Pleasant Valley Day-Use Area (South Shore)

Want to get the most out of your skis or is cross country something you have been interested in, and have been afraid to try? Want to learn how to ski or just improve your technique, to better enjoy this sport? Bring your own cross country skis, rent some skis or just come to see how it is done and if it is for you. We will gear the instruction to the abilities and interests of the people in the class and will cover technique and equipment selection based on your interests. All skill levels welcome. Dress for the weather, but be sure to layer so as not to overheat when practicing skiing. Bring your gear and meet us in the field near the Sunken Garden Trailhead, before the Pleasant Valley Beach. Free- Registration required – if we don't have snow, we will still meet and learn. To register visit <http://events.dcnr.pa.gov/> or call 724 368-8811.

Saturday, January 16, 2016 - Winterfest 5K Run/Walk
9:00 AM registration - Pavilion 7, McDanel's Launch (North Shore)

Join the first Winterfest 5K! Open to all ages and ability levels. Registration price includes long sleeve race shirt, chip timing by Miles of Smiles, awards, warm beverage. After the race, enjoy the Winterfest. To register, log on to smileymiles.com

Jan 16 2016 - 6th annual Winterfest at Moraine State Park
12:00 PM - 4:00 PM – McDanel's Launch (North Shore)

A great cure for cabin fever! See how you can enjoy Moraine State Park even in the winter! Snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, hiking, ice sculpture, ice fishing, and dog sledding demos, crafts, chili cook-off and hot food. For more information, visit the Moraine Preservation Fund at <http://www.morainepreservationfund.org/category/news/34.html>. [To sign up for the Chili Cookp-off email the Moraine Preservation Fund at contactm@consolidated.net.](mailto:contactm@consolidated.net)

Saturday, Jan 23, 2016 - Cross Country Ski Workshop
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM - Pleasant Valley Day Use Area (South Shore)

Want to get the most out of your skis or is cross country something you have been interested in, and have been afraid to try? Want to learn how to ski or just improve your technique, to better enjoy this sport? Bring your own cross country skis, rent some skis or just come to see how it is done and if it is for you. We will gear the instruction to the abilities and interests of the people in the class and will cover technique and equipment selection based on your interests. All skill levels welcome. Dress for the weather, but be sure to layer so as not to overheat when practicing skiing. Bring your gear and meet us in the field near the Sunken Garden Trailhead, before the Pleasant Valley Beach. Registration required – if we don't have snow, we will still meet and learn. To register visit <http://events.dcnr.pa.gov/> or call 724 368-8811.

**Saturday, January 30, 2016 - Ground Hog Stomp
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM - Bike Rental Parking Lot (North Shore)**

Come out and stomp the mud onto your boots or snowshoes! Join us for a fun hike on a scenic section of the North Country Trail, weather conditions and your preference will determine the distance, easy to moderate hiking. If snow is at least 4" deep, we will have some snowshoes to lend out for you to try, or bring your own. Dress for the weather and show that ground hog who's boss. (No actual ground hogs will be stomped, it's just an expression)

**Saturday, February 20, 2016 - Winter Hike for Veterans and Their Families
1:00 PM - 3:30 PM - Pavilion 1 (South Shore)**

Service members and their families are invited to join us for a winter hike approximately two miles long in moderate terrain through the winter forests of Moraine. If we have four or more inches of snow, some snowshoes will be available to borrow. Meet at Pavilion 1 on the South Shore, just past the sled riding hill. Bring the family and some sleds if you wish to go sled riding after the hike. For more information contact Natalie at moraineenvdsp@pa.gov or 724 368-8811.

**Wednesday, February 24, 2016 - River Otters Don't Use Sleds –But You Can!
4:30 PM - 6:00 PM - Pavilion 1 (South Shore)**

Enjoy the sled riding hill on South Shore of Moraine State Park! Meet park staff at Pavilion 1 for some sled riding fun while learning about river otters on Wednesday, February 24, 2016 at 4:30 PM-6:00 PM. Bring your sleds and dress for the weather! (Cancelled if weather is severe)

**Saturday, March 26, 2016 - Winter Weeds Walk
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM - Sunken Garden Trailhead (South Shore)**

Even in earliest spring, the remnants of last year's plants can add beauty to a walk by the lake. Join others on the Sunken Garden Trail on an easy hike along Lake Arthur looking for dried grasses, seedpods, and other treats of nature. Dress for the weather, cancelled if weather is severe. Meet at the Pleasant Valley Picnic Area, one quarter mile past the South Shore park office, 225 Pleasant Valley Rd, Portersville.

**Wednesday, March 30, 2016 - Birds after School
4:30 PM - 5:30 PM - Pleasant Valley Beach Area (South Shore)**

Bring the children for an introduction to watching for birds on Lake Arthur. We may see ducks, seagulls, or bigger birds as they visit the lake. Learn the basics of how to identify birds and enjoy the outdoors. Meet at the Pleasant Valley Picnic Area, one quarter mile straight past the South Shore office, 225 Pleasant Valley Road, Portersville, PA. Come dressed for the weather and a short hike.

**Saturday, April 9, 2016 - Growing Up WILD Teacher Workshop
9:00 AM-12:00 PM – Moraine Outdoor Center (North Shore)**

Growing Up WILD: Exploring Nature with Young Children is an early childhood education activity guide that builds on children's sense of wonder about nature and invites them to explore wildlife and the world around them. Growing Up WILD's activity guide is written for early childhood educators of children ages 3-7. Workshop participants will receive a copy of the guide and 3 Act 48 or PQAS hours. There is no charge to participate, but pre-registration is required. Please email moraineenvdsp@pa.gov or call the park office at (724) 368-8811 to register.

Thursday, April 28, 2016 - Volunteer Work Day
9:00 AM to 12:00 PM - McDanel's Launch Area (North Shore)

Celebrate Earth Day by helping Moraine State Park look its best. Join other volunteers as we clean out winter clutter, spruce up trails and shoreline, and tackle needed projects. Dress for work in the outdoors, bring work gloves if you have them. Bring water and snacks, and lunch if you wish. Minors welcome, but must be accompanied by adult. To register call the park office at 724 368-8811 or you can also visit the DCNR website at www.visitPAparks.com. Click on the Events Calendar at Moraine State Park.

Saturday, May 7, 2016 - Volunteer Clean-up Day
9:00 AM to 12:00 PM – South Shore Park Office

Help Moraine State Park look its best. Join other volunteers as we clean out winter clutter, spruce up trails, and tackle needed projects. Some long-distance hiking trail workers welcome. Dress for work in the outdoors, bring work gloves if you have them. Bring water, snacks and a sack lunch if you wish. Minors welcome, but must be accompanied by adult. To register call the park office at 724 368-8811 or you can also visit the DCNR website at www.visitPAparks.com. Click on the Events Calendar at Moraine State Park.

Saturday, May 21, 2016 - Wildflower Hike
10:00 AM to 1:00 PM - 528 Trailhead, Prospect exit

Explore the path less travelled in search of wildflowers. We may see trillium, jack-in-the-pulpit, violets, and more. Led by members of the Botanical Society of Western Pennsylvania, and park staff, this hike follows a portion of the Glacier Ridge Trail, also part of the North Country National Scenic Trail. Out and back will be approx 4 miles, but includes going up and down hills left in the glacial moraine. Dress for the weather and rough terrain, bring your own pack lunch, snacks, and water. Meet at the North Country/Glacial Ridge Trailhead on 528, across from upper 528 launch (no facilities).

Saturday, May 21, 2016 - Muddy Creek Oil Field
Living History Exhibit
11:00 AM - 5:00 PM – Park Road Prospect Exit

Come see a restored oil well in operation! The Muddy Creek Oil Well is an award-winning restoration site of an antique oil well. The Bessemer Gas Engine and Marshall-Barr No. 19 oil well equipment is restored and open for visitors to hear, see, and smell the industry that powered this region. The well will operate from 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Volunteers from 3MJC (Moraine, McConnells Mill, Jennings Commission) will be there to operate the engine and answer your questions. So come out and see the Bessemer engine pump some Pennsylvania crude. The central powerhouse site is located *beyond* the State Parks Region 2 office building at 195 Park Road, Prospect PA, (Old 422 off Route 528). Free refreshments will be provided! Visit www.3mjc.org or Check out 3MJC's facebook page for more information.

**Saturday, May 28, 2016 - Family Fishing Program
9:30 AM to 12:00 PM - Watts Bay Marina (North Shore)**

Looking for a great way to connect with your family? Discover just how much fun fishing can be when you do it together at a PFBC Family Fishing Program. Learn basic fishing skills like knot tying, casting, baiting the hook, and taking a fish off the hook. You and your family will have the opportunity to fish – no fishing license required. All equipment provided. The “catch???” Adults must bring a child and children must bring an adult. You’ll be learning and fishing together. Reservations required, call the Park Office at (724) 368-8811.

**Saturday, May 28, 2016 – Quick Frozen Critters
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM – Meet at Pleasant Valley Beach (South Shore)**

Learn the importance of predator and prey relationships and the adaptations they have that help them survive in their hostile environment through discussion and playing the game “Freeze Tag”. For children ages 5-12.

**Sunday, May 29, 2016 – Sunken Garden Trail Hike
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM – Meet at Sunken Garden Trailhead (South Shore)**

Join the park naturalist on an enjoyable and scenic 3.6 mile hike. Sunken Garden Trail offers views of the lake shoreline and travels through a variety of habitats and terrains. This hike is mostly level and some moderate inclines. Feel free to pack in a snack, binoculars, walking sticks, or whatever suits your walking style. We will stop around the halfway point to soak in the sun and just relax and enjoy the moment. Trailhead is located in the Pleasant Valley Picnic Area at the non-powered launch parking area.

Sunday, May 29, 2016 – Fish For Free Day

It’s Fish for Free Day throughout Pennsylvania. Fish-for-Free Days allow anyone (resident or non-resident) to legally fish on Pennsylvania waterways on the designated days with **NO FISHING LICENSE REQUIRED** (Trout/Salmon and Lake Erie permits are also NOT required). ***All other fishing regulations still apply.***

**Saturday, June 4, 2016 – Explore Offshore
9:30 AM – 11:30 AM – McDanel’s Launch Area (North Shore)**

Join Moraine Park staff in a kayaking adventure. Explore along the shore of Lake Arthur where dragonflies, heron, and fish thrive. Borrow binoculars and watch an osprey soar. During this nature-based paddle, participants will learn some basic kayak tips and set off to explore some of the lake inlets and learn about the lake and its wildlife. **Ages 12 and up, under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Kayak and gear provided, or bring your own. Life jackets required to be worn. Pre-registration required. Registration opens May 23. To register call the park office 724 368-8811.**

Sunday, June 5, 2016 - Wyggeston Trail History Hike
1:00 PM to 4:00 PM - past 195 Park Road, Prospect, PA 16052

Wyggeston Trail has some of the most challenging and remote terrain in the park. The trail also has historical significance to Moraine. Join park staff for an interpretive hike starting at the parking lot at the end of Park Road by the fishing pier, past 195 Park Road, where we will carpool to the Christley Road trailhead and hiking approx 3 miles one way past the Historic Oil Exhibit and back to Park Road. Wear sturdy shoes, dress for the weather (severe weather cancels event), and bring your own water and trail snacks. Reservations required due to shuttle at beginning of hike, to register call the park office 724 368-8811.

Friday, June 10, 2016 – Superheros Hike
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM – Meet at Sunken Garden Trailhead (South Shore)

Wear your favorite superhero t-shirt or superhero costume and join the park naturalist on an enjoyable and scenic 1.9 mile hike. Sunken Garden Trail offers views of the lake shoreline and travels through a variety of habitats and terrains. This hike is mostly level with some moderate inclines. We will stop several times along the trail to talk about the superpowers of some of our animal friends. Dress for the weather. Feel free to pack in a snack, binoculars, walking sticks, or whatever supergear suits your walking style. The trailhead is located in the Pleasant Valley Picnic Area at the non-powered launch parking area.

Saturday, June 11, 2016 - Beginner's Kayak Paddle
9:00 AM to 11:00 AM - Pleasant Valley Public Launch (South Shore)

Learn the basics of safe kayaking, and then paddle a nature-packed inlet of Lake Arthur. Celebrate National Get Outdoors Day by learning a new skill. **Ages 12 and up, under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Kayak and gear provided, or bring your own. Life jackets required to be worn. Pre-registration required. Registration opens May 30. To register call the park office at 724 368-8811.**

Saturday, June 11, 2016 -Muddy Creek Oil Field
Living History Exhibit
11:00 AM - 5:00 PM – Park Road Prospect Exit

Come see a restored oil well in operation! The Muddy Creek Oil Well is an award-winning restoration site of an antique oil well. The Bessemer Gas Engine and Marshall-Barr No. 19 oil well equipment is restored and open for visitors to hear, see, and smell the industry that powered this region. The well will operate from 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Volunteers from 3MJC (Moraine, McConnells Mill, Jennings Commission) will be there to operate the engine and answer your questions. So come out and see the Bessemer engine pump some Pennsylvania crude. The central powerhouse site is located *beyond* the State Parks Region 2 office building at 195 Park Road, Prospect PA, (Old 422 off Route 528). Free refreshments will be provided! Visit www.3mjc.org or Check out 3MJC's facebook page for more information.

**June 17, 2016 - DiscoverE Day Camp Penn's Adventurers for children ages 9-12
Details upon Registration – Moraine State Park**

“Outdoor Skills & Adventures” will be held on three Fridays: June 17, 24, and July 1, 2016
9 to 12 year olds are invited to become Penn's Adventurers as we build outdoor skills using our natural resources and encourage healthy experiences while building knowledge of the outdoors. Day camp times are from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM each day (bring a pack lunch). Cost for the program series is \$15.00, payable to “Commonwealth of PA” at time of registration. Pre-registration is required. To register call the Park Office at 724-368-8811.

**Saturday, June 18, 2016 - Family Fishing Festival
9:00 AM to 1:00 PM - Pleasant Valley Day Use Area**

Looking for a great way to connect with your family?
Discover just how much fun fishing can be when you do it together at a PFBC Family Fishing Program. Learn basic fishing skills like knot tying, casting, baiting the hook, and taking a fish off the hook. You and your family will have the opportunity to fish – no fishing license required. All equipment provided. The “catch???” Adults must bring a child and children must bring an adult. You'll be learning and fishing together. Registration required. Register on-line at PA Fish and Boat Commission <http://www.fish.state.pa.us/> or call 814-683-5126.

**Saturday, June 18, 2016 – Deer Trail Cameras
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM – Moraine Outdoor Center**

Mike Shaffer – Deer cameras are one of the best ways to scout for deer. Learn how to use trail cameras to pattern a deer. Join the park naturalist to learn about trail camera placement, when to put them out and how to maximize their effectiveness as a scouting tool.

**Sunday, June 19, 2016 – Full Moon Paddle
8:00 PM – 10:00 PM – Pleasant Valley Launch (South Shore)**

Paddling Lake Arthur in the full moon is a wonderful experience. Join us for some fun as we explore the lake during the full moon. A limited number of kayaks are available. **Ages 12 and up, under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Kayak and gear provided, or bring your own. Life jackets required to be worn. Pre-registration required. Registration opens June 5. To register call the park office at 724 368-8811.**

**Tuesday, June 21, 2016 – The Bear Facts
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM – Moraine Outdoor Center (North Shore)**

Black bears are one of the largest and most elusive animals living in Pennsylvania. Join the park naturalist and learn about these amazing and intelligent animals, some of the issues facing them, and how we can live harmoniously among their increasing numbers. Please allow for approximately 20 additional minutes upon entering the park to reach the Moraine Outdoor Center, near the Davis Hollow Marina.

Saturday, June 25, 2016 – Shannon Run Paddle
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM – Details upon Registration – Moraine State Park

Join Moraine Park staff and explore the Shannon Run area of Moraine's Lake Arthur. During this nature-based paddle, participants will learn some basic kayak tips and set off to explore the abundant wildlife and plant life of this unique inlet. Borrow binoculars and watch an osprey or eagle soar. **Ages 12 and up, under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Kayak and gear provided, or bring your own. Life jackets required to be worn. Pre-registration required. Registration opens June 17. To register call the park office 724 368-8811.**

Sunday, June 25, 2016 – Salamander Safari
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM – Meet outside the Davis Hollow Marina Office (North Shore)

Join the Park Naturalist at Moraine State Park to explore Davis Hollow Creek for salamanders and other critters. There will be a 15 minute walk to the stream. Wear a sturdy pair of walking shoes for hiking to and from the stream. Pack water shoes to slip on at the stream and bring bug spray. Great fun for the whole family!

Sunday, June 26, 2016 – Heavenly Hummingbirds
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM – Moraine Outdoor Center (North Shore)

Hummingbirds are the tiniest and most fascinating birds that will visit your backyard. Learn how to attract hummingbirds into your own backyard with nectar and insect plants that they dearly crave. Then afterward, we will build a Hummingbird Trellis of your own. **If you would like to build a trellis, pre-registration required. Construction costs are \$20.00 for each fan shaped trellis. Bring a battery-powered drill if you have one. To register call the Park Office at (724) 368-8811.**

Wednesday, June 29, 2016 – Fireflies
8:00 PM – 9:30 PM – Pavilion # 5 Lakeview Area (North Shore)

Join park staff as we fly into the world of luminous lightning bugs! Find out about their unique lives and how you can help scientists by observing fireflies in your own backyard. Bring the children for a glowing adventure.

Saturday, July 2, 2016 – Bats in Action
8:00 PM – 9:30 PM – Mt. Zion Baptist Church

Mysterious and often misunderstood, bats are one of our friends of the night sky. Meet the park naturalist at the Mt. Zion Baptist Church (NO FACILITIES) on route 528 to see a bat condo in action and explore the wonders of these nighttime insectivores. Learn why bats may be in trouble and how you can help scientists by reporting bat activity. Bring blankets, chairs, flashlights and bug protection.

Monday, July 4, 2016 – Fish For Free Day

It's Fish for Free Day throughout Pennsylvania. Fish-for-Free Days allow anyone (resident or non-resident) to legally fish on Pennsylvania waterways on the designated days with NO FISHING LICENSE REQUIRED (Trout/Salmon and Lake Erie permits are also NOT required). **All other fishing regulations still apply.**

**Friday, July 8, 2016 - DiscoverE Day Camp - Hide 'n Seekers (ages 4 & 5 only)
Details upon Registration – Moraine State Park**

“Animal Traces” will be held on three Fridays: July 8, July 15 and July 22, 2016. **4 and 5 year olds** are invited to become Hide 'n Seekers as we learn about mammals and investigate the traces and clues our mammal friends leave behind. Children may register for either the morning or afternoon series. Morning series times are from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM and the afternoon series times are from 1:00 PM to 3:00 PM each day. Cost for the program series is \$15.00, payable to “Commonwealth of PA” at time of registration. **Pre-registration is required.** To register call the Park Office at 724-368-8811.

**Saturday, July 9, 2014 – Bat Box Workshop
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM – Moraine Outdoor Center (North Shore)**

Can't sit out on your porch without getting pestered by mosquitoes? Well, if you can't, this program is one you do not want to miss. This is your chance to learn all about bats of Pennsylvania and build a bat box of your choice. If you build it they will come!!! Your mosquito problems will be solved because bats can consume tremendous amounts of insects. As a matter of fact, the little brown bat, a very common bat here in Pennsylvania, can eat 600 insects an hour. **Pre-registration required. Due to limited supplies and space this program will be limited to the first (10) families and/or participants. Construction costs are \$50.00 for the large bat box (250 bat capacity) or \$25.00 for the small bat box (80 bat capacity). Bring a battery-powered screwdriver if you have one. To register call the Park Office at (724) 368-8811. Allow 20 minutes to get to Moraine Outdoor Center from 422 exit.**

**Saturday, July 9, 2016 - Muddy Creek Oil Field
Living History Exhibit
11:00 AM - 5:00 PM – Park Road Prospect Exit**

Come see a restored oil well in operation! The Muddy Creek Oil Well is an award-winning restoration site of an antique oil well. The Bessemer Gas Engine and Marshall-Barr No. 19 oil well equipment is restored and open for visitors to hear, see, and smell the industry that powered this region. The well will operate from 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Volunteers from 3MJC (Moraine, McConnells Mill, Jennings Commission) will be there to operate the engine and answer your questions. So come out and see the Bessemer engine pump some Pennsylvania crude. The central powerhouse site is located *beyond* the State Parks Region 2 office building at 195 Park Road, Prospect PA, (Old 422 off Route 528). Free refreshments will be provided! Visit www.3mjc.org or Check out 3MJC's facebook page for more information.

**Sunday, July 10, 2016 – Camping & Backpacking Basics
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM – Moraine Outdoor Center (North Shore)**

Join the park naturalist to learn the basics of camping and backpacking. Preparation is the key to any successful backpacking trip. Learn how to properly trip plan by taking into account the 4W concept, which includes: Weather, Water, Wildlife and Widowmakers. Learn about logistical aspects of trip planning from the equipment needed, to food and transportation. Learn the importance of having a backpacking checklist and how to properly pack a pack. Lastly, learn the principles of “Leave No Trace”, which will be your guide to the great outdoors. This program will go over a real Camping and Backpacking trip here at Moraine State Park on August 12th - 14th and you are invited to sit in and take a listen. Hopefully you will be interested in joining us.

**Saturday, July 16, 2016 – Turtles, Tortoises, and Terrapins
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM – Moraine Outdoor Classroom (North Shore)**

Have you ever wondered if there is a difference? Can turtles really crawl out of their shells? Join the park naturalist for an up close and personal look at these wonderful creatures. **Allow 20 minutes to get to Moraine Outdoor Center from 422 exit.**

**Thursday, July 21, 2016 - DiscoverE Day Camp – Outdoor Explorers (ages 6 & 8 only)
Details upon Registration – Moraine State Park**

“Reptiles & Amphibians” will be held on Three Thursdays: July 21, July 28, and August 4, 2016. Children will learn the differences between reptiles and amphibians through interactive, hands-on, story-telling, and classifying activities. After all the in-class sessions, students will be led out in nature to observe "Herps" in their natural habitats. The last day we will go to a nearby stream to look for salamanders, frogs and other critters that live there. Pre-registration required. Cost for the series is \$15.00/student. To register call the Park Office at 724-368-8811. Two sessions to choose from: AM session runs from 10:00 AM to Noon. PM session runs from 1:00pm-3:00pm.

**Saturday, July 23, 2016 - Volunteer Work Day
9:00 AM to 12:00 PM - Pleasant Valley Day Use Area (South Shore)**

Pitch in for your park! Join other volunteers as they tackle projects along the shoreline, beach, and boat launch of Pleasant Valley. A variety of tasks, for various skill levels, are available. Lunch provided. Dress for the outdoors and bring your work gloves! To register call the park office at 724 368-8811 or you can also visit the DCNR website at www.visitPAparks.com. Click on the Events Calendar at Moraine State Park.

**Saturday, July 30, 2016 – Venomous Snakes of PA
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM – Moraine Outdoor Center (North Shore)**

Join the park naturalist to learn about all the snakes we have in Pennsylvania. Don't let their scales and appearance fool you...snakes play an important role in the environment. Find out what's real and what's not, from the venomous to the perfectly harmless and much, much, more. Live snakes will be on hand, so don't miss out on this grand opportunity. **Allow 20 minutes to get to Moraine Outdoor Classroom from 422 exit.**

**Sunday, July 31, 2016 – Lunch on the Lake
12:00 PM - 3:00 PM – Davis Hollow Marina (North Shore)**

Come enjoy a relaxing cruise on Lake Arthur. We will take in all the sights and sounds that nature has to offer as we enjoy a scrumptious catered luncheon. **\$20.00/ person. Seating is limited to the first 10 participants. Pre-registration required. To register call the Park Office at (724) 368-8811.** Davis Hollow Marina is at the end of North Shore Drive, about 15 minutes from the North Shore exit off 422 West. Meet outside the Davis Hollow Marina Office.

Saturday, August 6 & 7, 2016 - Regatta at Lake Arthur

10:00AM – Dark - Saturday, August 6, 2016 - Pleasant Valley Beach (South Shore)

10:00AM – 8:00PM - Sunday, August 7, 2016 - Pleasant Valley Beach (South Shore)

Come on out to the premiere, all-ages, eco- recreational event in the region and get to know Moraine State park. Sailing into its 18th year at Moraine State Park – the Regatta is “naturally” fun and provides FREE weekend activities for friends and families to enjoy. Over 20,000 visitors attended the 2015 Regatta to experience 3,225 acre Lake Arthur and over 40 miles of scenic shoreline. The Regatta offers land and lake events, along with exciting opportunities to engage with the natural resources of the Park. **2016 WILL FEATURE:** Live Entertainment | SummersCool Eco-Recreational Instruction | Marketplace of Food, Craft & Business Vendors | Community Sailing & Races | Children’s Activities, Crafts & Games | Native Butterfly Release | MSP Partner Spotlight | Mountain Bike Trail Ride...and much more. We hope that you will come out to play! **FOR CURRENT INFORMATION, CONTACT:** RALA2016 Administrative Office at (724) 687-0707 • info@lakearthurregatta.org • www.lakearthurregatta.org

AUGUST 12 – 14, 2016 - Moraine Backpacking & Camping Trip Starts on Friday, August 12th at 6:30 PM – Moraine Outdoor Center

If you love to tent camp, backpack, kayak and bike this trip is for you. This is truly a camper’s dream vacation packed with fun-filled activities. This camping trip is designed for the beginner to intermediate level. Let the staff of trained outdoor professionals be your guide on a journey of a lifetime. **Limited to first 12 participants. Total Cost: \$60.00 per person.** Includes: All food, kayaks, and bikes. Some gear is available, such as backpacks, sleeping pads, sleeping bags and cook stoves. For Ages 14 and up, children 17 and under must be accompanied by an adult/guardian. **Pre-registration required. Deadline for registration is July 10th. To register call the Park Office at (724) 368-8811. In order to go on this trip you must attend the following orientation class: Camping & Backpacking Basics on July 10th, from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm at the Moraine Outdoor Center.** This course will go over camping agenda, equipment needed, and principles of “Leave No Trace” and answer any questions or concerns you might have. **There is a \$30.00 deposit due at this time.**

Saturday, August 13, 2016 -Muddy Creek Oil Field Living History Exhibit 11:00 AM - 5:00 PM – Park Road Prospect Exit

Come see a restored oil well in operation! The Muddy Creek Oil Well is an award-winning restoration site of an antique oil well. The Bessemer Gas Engine and Marshall-Barr No. 19 oil well equipment is restored and open for visitors to hear, see, and smell the industry that powered this region. The well will operate from 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Volunteers from 3MJC (Moraine, McConnells Mill, Jennings Commission) will be there to operate the engine and answer your questions. So come out and see the Bessemer engine pump some Pennsylvania crude. The central powerhouse site is located *beyond* the State Parks Region 2 office building at 195 Park Road, Prospect PA, (Old 422 off Route 528). Free refreshments will be provided! Visit www.3mjc.org or Check out 3MJC's facebook page for more information.

**Wednesday, August 17, 2016 – Full Moon Bat Paddle
7:30 PM – 10:00 PM – Pleasant Valley Launch (South Shore)**

Come join us for a hair raising experience paddling on Lake Arthur learning about bats in the full moon. I promise you that no bats will get tangled in your hair. Join us for some fun as we explore the lake during the full moon. A limited number of kayaks are available. **Ages 12 and up, under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Kayak and gear provided, or bring your own. Life jackets required to be worn. Pre-registration required. Registration opens August 1. To register call the park office at 724 368-8811.**

**Saturday, August 20, 2016 - Star Party
8:00 PM - 10:00 PM – Bike Rental Parking Lot (North Shore)**

The Amateur Astronomers Association of Pittsburgh will once again bring this popular family program to Moraine. Experience a guided tour of the sky! Meet at the parking lot near the Bike Rental on North Shore, Moraine State Park, bring a chair. After a presentation that begins at 8 pm we will be observing the heavens through the privately owned telescopes of members from the Amateur Astronomers Association and others. www.3ap.org Saturn and Mars will be very close to the giant star Antares. Albireo will again be in view, an optical double, not a true double star. One star is blue and one gold. An actual double star called Cor Caroli will be seen close in proximity to the last star in the big dippers handle. The Star Vega will be high in the sky, and because of the Earth's wobble, Vega will be the North star in 12,000 years. **Bring a lawn chair, bug spray, and your curiosity.** Please **no smoking** anywhere on the field (it harms the telescopes) and refrain from using flash lights or cell phones, and take care with headlights. The white light ruins night vision. **Bad weather cancels event. Call park office 724 368-8811 by 4:00 pm or check park facebook if weather looks bad. This is a FREE event.**

**Saturday, August 27, 2016 – Frogs and Toads of PA
7:00 PM – 8:30 PM – Moraine Outdoor Classroom (North Shore)**

Join the park naturalist to learn about the frogs and toads of Pennsylvania. After a short discussion, participants will be led on a walk to find amphibians in their natural settings. Bring a flashlight if you have one. **Allow 20 minutes to get to Moraine Outdoor Classroom from 422 exit.**

**Saturday, September 10, 2016 - Muddy Creek Oil Field
Living History Exhibit
11:00 AM - 5:00 PM – Park Road Prospect Exit**

Come see a restored oil well in operation! The Muddy Creek Oil Well is an award-winning restoration site of an antique oil well. The Bessemer Gas Engine and Marshall-Barr No. 19 oil well equipment is restored and open for visitors to hear, see, and smell the industry that powered this region. The well will operate from 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Volunteers from 3MJC (Moraine, McConnells Mill, Jennings Commission) will be there to operate the engine and answer your questions. So come out and see the Bessemer engine pump some Pennsylvania crude. The central powerhouse site is located *beyond* the State Parks Region 2 office building at 195 Park Road, Prospect PA, (Old 422 off Route 528). Free refreshments will be provided! Visit www.3mjc.org or Check out 3MJC's facebook page for more information.

**Friday, September 16, 2016 – Full Moon Paddle
7:00 PM – 9:30 PM – McDanel’s Launch (North Shore)**

Paddling Lake Arthur in the full moon is a wonderful experience. Join us for some fun as we explore the lake during the full moon. A limited number of kayaks are available. **Ages 12 and up, under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Kayak and gear provided, or bring your own. Life jackets required to be worn. Pre-registration required. Registration opens September 2. To register call the park office at 724 368-8811.**

**Saturday, September 17, 2016 – Sunset Tea Cruise
5:00 PM – 7:30 PM – Davis Hollow Marina (North Shore)**

Come enjoy a relaxing cruise on Lake Arthur. Take in all the sights and sounds that Moraine has to offer. We will cruise the lake learning about the history of tea and watch the sun set into the hills. If the gentle breezes from the lake don't cool you off, don't worry because ice-cold Wild Teas will be served for your pleasure. **\$10.00/ person. Seating is limited to the first 10 participants. Pre-registration required. To register call the Park Office at (724) 368-8811.** Davis Hollow Marina is at the end of North Shore Drive, about 15 minutes from the North Shore exit off 422 West. Meet outside the Davis Hollow Marina Office.

**Saturday, October 1, 2016 – Spiders of PA
4:00 PM – 5:30 PM – Moraine Outdoor Center (North Shore)**

Join park naturalist *Mike Shaffer* to learn about the common spiders of Pennsylvania. Learn about the two venomous spiders found here in Pennsylvania. Afterwards, we will take a hike to find spiders in their natural habitat. **Allow 20 minutes to get to Moraine Outdoor Center from 422 exit.**

**Saturday, October 8, 2016 - Project WILD Teacher Workshop
8:30 AM to 3:30 PM - Moraine Outdoor Center (North Shore)**

Project WILD is an environmental education curriculum supplement and activity guide designed for educators working with students from kindergarten through twelfth grades. *Project WILD* is a collection of innovative, wildlife-related activities that are hands-on, easy to use, and fun! Through hands-on practice with *Project WILD* materials, activities, and strategies, participants gain the experience needed to integrate it into their teaching. This workshop is open to both formal educators and anyone who is interested in sharing nature with children. There is a charge of \$30.00 and participants who complete the workshop will receive the *Project WILD K-12 Curriculum and Activity Guide* and 6.5 Act 48 or PQAS hours. Preregistration is required, please email our Environmental Education Specialist, Mike Shaffer at mishaffer@pa.gov or call the Park Office at 724 368-8811.

**Saturday, October 8, 2016 - Muddy Creek Oil Field
Living History Exhibit
11:00 AM - 5:00 PM – Park Road Prospect Exit**

Come see a restored oil well in operation! The Muddy Creek Oil Well is an award-winning restoration site of an antique oil well. The Bessemer Gas Engine and Marshall-Barr No. 19 oil well equipment is restored and open for visitors to hear, see, and smell the industry that powered this region. The well will operate from 11:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Volunteers from 3MJC (Moraine, McConnells Mill, Jennings Commission) will be there to operate the engine and answer your questions. So come out and see the Bessemer engine pump some Pennsylvania crude. The central powerhouse site is located *beyond* the State Parks Region 2 office building at 195 Park Road, Prospect PA, (Old 422 off Route 528). Free refreshments will be provided! Visit www.3mjc.org or Check out 3MJC's facebook page for more information.

**Wednesday, October 12, 2016 – Fall Foliage Kayak Float
1:00 PM – 4:00 PM – Meet at Upper 528 Boat Launch**

As daylight shortens and temperatures begin to drop the long days of summer become just a distant memory and slowly give way to fall. In what seems in a “blink of an eye”, Pennsylvania forests burst into flame. Colors of red, orange and yellow show their dominance over the landscape, making Lake Arthur look like a beautiful pane of glass. Join the Park Naturalist for an interpretive kayak paddle for an interesting look into the color of fall. Learn why plants are green and ultimately why they turn the colors they do in the fall. **Ages 12 and up, under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Kayak and gear provided, or bring your own. Life jackets required to be worn. Pre-registration required. Registration opens September 26. To register call the park office at 724 368-8811. Dress for the weather.**

GREAT HORNED OWL



GREAT-HORNED OWL – This large owl stands at 24 inches tall and weighs in at 3.5 pounds is sometimes called the Tiger of the Sky. They are named after the prominent feathers on top their heads that look like horns. Great-horned owls are the most powerful of all the owls and very fierce and aggressive. Very adaptable animal, found throughout the United States in a wide variety of habitats. Prey on rabbits, wood rats, mice, birds, hares, grouse, squirrels and have been known to kill even foxes. Great Horned Owls favorite food are skunks, but don't worry they have no sense of smell. Will kill and eat all other owls. Female will start incubating eggs in February, hatch in about a month. Three months in nest until fledging.

To get started birding, or if you just want to meet new folks, contact one of the following bird clubs:

Bartramian Audubon Society at www.bartramianaudubon.org

Butler, Lawrence, Mercer, and Venango Counties

Todd Bird Club at www.toddbirdclub.org

Indiana, Armstrong and Cambria Counties

Three Rivers Birding Club at www.3rbc.org

Southwestern PA