

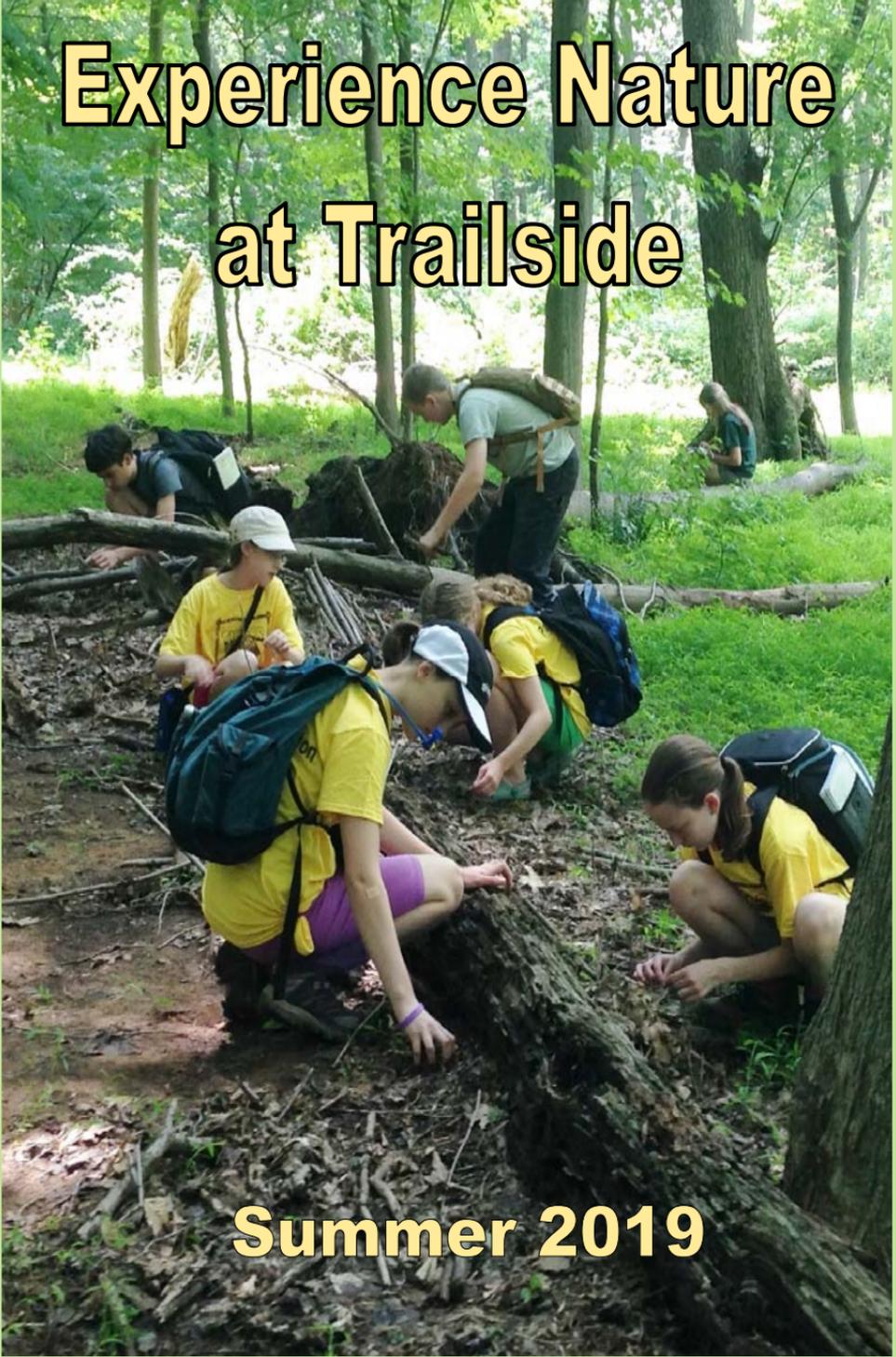
A Service of the Union County
Board of Chosen Freeholders



UNION COUNTY
We're Connected to You!

Experience Nature at Trailside

Summer 2019





The Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders invites you to experience nature at Trailside this summer. Take part in one of the many unique and educational summer camps and family programs. Trailside's location in the scenic Watchung Reservation provides the perfect outdoor classroom to have fun while learning about the natural world around us.

- Pre-first grade programs for 4 & 5-year-old children
- Half and full-day camps for children in 1st-9th grades
- Family programs
- Evening programs
- Wednesday Family Matinees

IC = UNION COUNTY RESIDENT

OC = OUT OF COUNTY



In order to accommodate everyone, please let us know in advance if you or a member of your family has special needs.

**Hours of operation are 12 - 5 PM daily.
Trailside is closed Thursday, July 4th
Happy Independence Day!**

2019 Summer Camps & Family Programs

Online Registration Begins
March 2nd at 9:00 AM
for Union County Residents

Register at: www.ucnj.org/trailside

If you do not have an account, we highly recommend you create one prior to Saturday, March 2nd. Include all family members.

In-person registration is welcome at the Trailside Visitor Center on March 2nd from 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Cash and credit cards only. Non-county residents may begin registering March 4 at 9:00 AM.

***Please Read All General & Cancellation Policies
Before Registering.***

General Policies

- . You may only register family members in your household.**
- . Program spaces are non-exchangeable and non-transferable.**
- . In developing programs, Trailside keeps in mind the abilities of different aged children. Please pay attention to age guidelines when registering. If an inappropriately aged child attends a camp, the child will be removed and no credit or refund will be issued.**
- . *Children enrolled in the Pre-First Grade programs MUST be four (4) years of age BY JUNE 1, 2019.***
- . Children enrolled in the Pre-First Grade programs are not permitted to take a morning and afternoon session during the same camp week.**

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Cancellation Policies

1. Refunds will be given from March 4th to May 31st with a non-refundable registration fee of \$35 charged for *each* pre-first grade camp, *each* half-day session of camp and *each family* enrolled in the Family Campout for Beginners.
2. We are unable to process refunds directly to credit cards. Call Trailside for refund procedures.
3. Credits or refunds will not be given at **any** time for Friday Family, Tuesday Evening or Family Campfire. Trailside credits will only be issued for an evening or family program *cancelled by Trailside due to inclement weather*.

Waitlist

As camps and family programs fill, a waitlist option is available online for each program. There is no charge to place a name on the waitlist. Participants will be called from waitlists as space becomes available.



Trailside Matinees

Summer matinee entertainment series will feature a variety of kid-friendly, nature, science and earth friendly entertainment. Recommended for families with children ages 4 & up.



Wednesdays at 1:30 PM

Tickets go on sale at 1 PM

July 10 Science Tellers - Aliens: Escape From Earth

During a midnight meteor shower, something mysterious falls from the sky toward Earth - but it's not a shooting star. Throughout this intergalactic story, explore the out-of-this world science behind reactions, polymers, pressure, energy and so much more!

July 17 Mad Science of NJ - Reach for the Moon

Probe the wonders of space as we commemorate the 50th anniversary of the landing on the moon. Propel to the outer reaches of our solar system and ignite your imagination with interstellar space.

July 24 Abracadabra...It's Joe Fischer

A perfect blend of magic, audience participation, comedy and excitement.

July 31 Rizzo's Reptiles

Blending nature & conservation, this program features live lizards, snakes and an alligator!

Aug. 7 Outrage-hiss Pets

See live animals from all over the world. Meet these amazing creatures up close, learn what they eat and where they live.



Aug. 14 Eyes of the Wild

Calling all animal lovers! Live animals, education & fun collide in this entertaining presentation.

**Admission: \$5.00/person
\$4.00/senior citizen (62 & older with ID)**

No strollers in the auditorium please.

PRE-FIRST GRADE CAMP PROGRAM CHART

For children ages 4 and 5

Classes meet Monday through Thursday.

*Children enrolled in the Pre-First Grade programs
MUST be four (4) years of age BY JUNE 1, 2019.*

SESSION TIMES:

A = 9:15 AM - 11:45 AM

B = 1:15 PM - 3:45 PM

FEES: IC \$ 100 / **A or B** OC \$120 / **A or B**

Special 3-Day Programming

* **July 1 - 3 Monday - Wednesday** *

FEES: IC \$ 75 / **A or B**

OC \$ 90 / **A or B**

1. June 24 - 27	A: ABC's of Science & Feathered Friends	B: Seasonal Surprise & Dinomite
2. July 1 - 3 Mon - Wed <i>Trailside is closed July 4</i>	A: Wacky Weather & Natural Beginnings	B: Wacky Weather & Natural Beginnings
3. July 8 - 11	A: Animal Adventures & Nature in a Nutshell	B: Turtle Time & Under the Sea
4. July 15-18	A: Sense-sations & Astro-nuts	B. Prehistoric Pals Wet-n-Wild
5. July 22 - 25	A: Seasonal Surprise & Dinomite	B: Going Buggy & Animal Crackers
6. July 29 - Aug. 1	A: Turtle Time & Under the Sea	B: Sense-sations & Astro-nuts
7. Aug. 5 - 8	A: Prehistoric Pals & Wet-n-Wild	B: Animal Adventures & Nature in a Nutshell
8. Aug. 12 - 15	A: Going Buggy & Animal Crackers	B: ABC's of Science & Feathered Friends

PRE-FIRST GRADE PROGRAMS

For children ages 4 and 5

Sign up your child for these **4-day (Monday-Thursday)** workshops. Each 2½ hour workshop includes two programs and a ½ hour supervised break. Children may register for a morning “A” or afternoon “B” session. **Pre-first grade children may not take a morning and an afternoon session during the same week.** Children should bring a snack and beverage for the break. **Limit per session: 14 children.**

Please Refer To The Camp Program Chart For All Dates, Times & Fees



PREHISTORIC PALS

Investigate the many ancient mammals, birds, fish, reptiles, insects and amphibians that lived alongside dinosaurs. Find out interesting facts about megalodon sharks, saber-toothed cats, giant dragonflies, elephant birds and more. Have fun comparing these primitive creatures to animals we know today.

WET - N - WILD

Get ready for some splish-splashing fun as we learn about the wonders of water and wetland habitats. Discover the diversity of life that is found in streams and ponds. Use special nets to collect crayfish, salamanders and aquatic insects in a nearby stream. Through interactive, hands-on activities, find out why water and wetland habitats are important to plants, animals & people.

GOING BUGGY

Come to “bug haven” and scoop up some of those 6-legged creatures called insects. Through stories, games, explorations and crafts, find out fascinating facts about hoppers, climbers, crawlers and flyers.

ANIMAL CRACKERS

Become an animal detective and use your senses to uncover clues animals have left behind. Search for camouflaged critters, animal homes and foot prints. Listen carefully and learn to identify birds, insects and frogs by the sounds they make.

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TURTLE TIME

Discover the unique adaptations turtles have that allow them to live in the woods, lakes, oceans and deserts around the world. Take a walk to look for turtles, see how big you are compared to the largest sea turtle, practice moving like a land tortoise, read stories and have fun making turtle crafts. Each day, meet live turtles from Trailside's reptile collection.

UNDER THE SEA

Discover why oceans are special and find out which animals live in "Nemo's neighborhood." Learn interesting facts about sharks, whales and sea turtles through games, songs, crafts and hikes.

SEASONAL SURPRISE

Explore a different season each day as we investigate winter snowflakes, spring flowers, summer sunshine and autumn leaves. Each season brings new opportunities to discover nature through crafts, games and hikes.

DINOMITE

Travel back through a special dinosaur time tunnel to the days of the "terrible lizards." Become a paleontologist and uncover your own "fossils" to take home. Work as a group to reassemble a dino skeleton. Have fun learning about your favorite dinosaurs through games, crafts & imagination walks through the Reservation.

ANIMAL ADVENTURES

Through crafts, books and imagination walks have fun learning about interesting animals and their habitats. Use your imagination to visit Africa in search of lions and rhinos. Enjoy a story about tropical rainforests and travel to Australia to see kangaroos and koalas. Brave the cold of Antarctica and make a penguin craft to take home.

NATURE IN A NUTSHELL

Find the largest tree, the smallest bird, an orange rock and a purple flower. Count butterflies in the garden, petals on a flower and tracks in the sand. Discover how animals use color for camouflage and have fun investigating shapes, sizes, patterns and numbers in nature.

ABC's of SCIENCE

Budding scientists will experiment with **A**stronomy, **B**otany, **C**hemistry and the marvels of magnets. Participants will visit the planets on an imaginary trip through space, investigate the life cycle of plants, create a painting using magnets and experiment with kitchen ingredients including baking soda, vinegar and soap.

FEATHERED FRIENDS

Penguins, ducks, owls and cardinals all look very different, but they also share many common traits. Find out what makes birds different from other animals and learn to identify some common birds by shape, size, color and sound. Use binoculars to see birds close up. Help take care of the bird feeding station and learn how to encourage birds to visit your house too!

SENSE - SATIONS

Investigate the natural world through the senses of sight, sound, smell and touch. Learn how hawks use their eyes to spot food and try your "paws" at fishing like a raccoon. Play bat and moth to find out how bats use their ears to find food and discover how fox use their sense of smell to locate prey. Make a fox craft to take home.

ASTRO-NUTS

Discover what it takes to become an astronaut. Use your imagination to visit Trailside's "space station" to get an up close look at planets, stars, galaxies, moons, meteors and more. Make your own rocket ship and have fun learning all about space.

3-Day Camp - Monday, July 1 - Wednesday, July 3
For pre-first graders ages 4 and 5

WACKY WEATHER

Have fun learning all about weather through hands-on activities, crafts and hikes. Make a kite to catch the wind, search outside for shadows, help create a thunderstorm and enjoy making clouds in the classroom.

NATURAL BEGINNINGS

A program designed to heighten your child's awareness of the natural world and the interdependence of all living things. Learn about plants, animals, food chains and more through a planting activity, short hikes, games, crafts and stories.

CAMP PROGRAM CHART FOR 1st-9th GRADES

Classes Meet Monday through Friday

Session Times

A: 9 AM - 12 PM B: 1 PM - 4 PM

A & B Combination: 9 AM - 4 PM

FEE: Single Session Rate: IC \$145 / **A or B** OC \$180 / **A or B**

*Combination Rate: IC \$330 / **A & B** OC \$420 / **A & B**

Special 3-Day Programming July 1 - 3 Monday - Wednesday

FEES:

IC \$ 90 / **A or B** OC \$108 / **A or B**

IC \$210 / **A & B** OC \$252 / **A & B**

Week	Grade	Program Combinations	
1. June 24 - 28	1st-2nd	A: Tropical Treasures	B: Wanishi, Wigwams
	3rd-4th	A: Birds of a Feather	B: Extreme Earth
2. July 1 - 3 <i>*3-day camp Trailside is closed July 4</i>	1st-2nd	A: Fairies of Field & Forest	B: Nature Discovery Club
	3rd-4th	A: Magical & Natural Marvels	B: Wild & Rare
	5th-6th	A: Naturally Artistic	B: Summer Discoveries
	Adults 18 - 21	Nature Retreat for Adults With Special Needs 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM	
3. July 8 - 12	1st-2nd	A: Have a Habitat	B: Down & Dirty
		A: Wanishi, Wigwams	B: Seasonally Artistic
	3rd-4th	A: Bugs & Beyond	B: Junior Naturalist
	5th-6th	A: Behind the Scenes	B: Green Team



Week	Grade	Program Combinations	
4. July 15-19	1st-2nd	A: Arctic, Ocean & Desert	B: Seasonally Artistic
		A: Branching Out	B: Feather, Fur & Scales
	3rd-4th	A: Trailside Treks	B: Life in Cold Blood
	5th-6th	A: Backwoods Lore	B: All About Animals
5. July 22-26	1st-2nd	A: Nature's Olympians	B: Around the World
		A: Down & Dirty	B: Tropical Treasures
	3rd-4th	A: Art of Nature	B: Birds of a Feather
	7th-9th	Nature Treks	
6. July 29- Aug. 2	1st-2nd	A: Seasonally Artistic	B: Have a Habitat
		A: Wanishi, Wigwams	B: Nature's Olympians
	3rd-4th	A: Bugs & Beyond	B: Trailside Treks
	5th-6th	A: Backwoods Lore	B: Behind the Scenes
7. Aug. 5 - 9	1st-2nd	A: Branching Out	B: Feather, Fur & Scales
		A: Have a Habitat	B: Arctic, Ocean & Desert
	3rd-4th	A: Extreme Earth	B: Life in Cold Blood
	5th-6th	A: Green Team	B: All About Animals
8. Aug. 12-16	1st-2nd	A: Around the World	B: Tropical Treasures
	3rd-4th	A: Art of Nature	B: Junior Naturalist
9. Aug. 19-23	Ages: 12 - 14	Sensory Camp for Kids with Special Needs 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM	
	Ages: 15 - 17	Sensory Camp for Kids with Special Needs 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM	

HALF AND FULL DAY CAMPS FOR CHILDREN ENTERING 1ST-9TH GRADES

The following **5-day (Monday - Friday)**, 3-hour programs may be combined for a full-day camp. Full-day combo sessions include a ½ hour lunchtime and a ½ hour of supervised free time which includes outdoor activities, weather permitting.

Limit per camp session: 14 children

***Please refer To The Camp Program Chart
For All Dates, Times & Combination Camps.***

Children in a full-day combination session must bring lunch in an insulated lunch bag. All children in a half or full-day session should bring a snack and drink for EACH camp session daily.



FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 1st & 2nd GRADES

ARCTIC, OCEAN & DESERT - Take an imaginary journey to some of the world's most extreme habitats. Find out how animals such as arctic fox and polar bear survive the sub-zero temperatures of the arctic while camels and armadillos thrive in the heat of the desert. Learn about the ocean and its inhabitants and “go spelunking” in caves to discover which animals occupy this unique environment.

AROUND THE WORLD - Become a world explorer and travel to different continents each day. Learn about amazing animals that live in the Rocky Mountains, creep through the Amazon rainforest, run in the African deserts and inhabit the outback “down under.” Each day we will hike a trail, map out an adventure and keep a pictorial record of our discoveries.

BRANCHING OUT - From the towering Tulip trees of the Watchung Reservation to the fascinating world of bromeliads deep within the Amazon rainforests, discover why vegetation is so important. Learn about plants that are poisonous to touch and those that are carnivorous. Through games, hikes and art projects discover the beauty of flowers. Find out about the fascinating world of trees, plants and shrubs branching out around us.

DOWN AND DIRTY - Investigate the world beneath your feet. Sample soil and look for signs of animals that live underground: the earthworm, chipmunk, groundhog and others. Search for artifacts on an archeological dig and gain a better understanding of soil and rocks through experiments and geology hikes.

FEATHER, FUR & SCALES - Have fun learning about birds, mammals, reptiles & amphibians as we explore the fascinating world of the animal kingdom. Investigate the different habitats of the Watchung Reservation in search of our animal neighbors, their homes & hideouts. Meet live animals from around the world with guests from *Rizzo's Reptiles*.

HAVE TO HAVE A HABITAT - Food, water, shelter and space are necessary for all animals to survive. Discover the diversity of animals that live in the forest from canopy to forest floor. Use sweep nets in the meadow habitat to catch, identify and release insects and investigate nearby wetland habitats in search of frogs, salamanders and aquatic insects. Through crafts, games and hands-on activities, have fun exploring the habitats of the Watchung Reservation.

NATURE'S OLYMPIANS - Discover who is the fastest flier, strongest swimmer, highest jumper and quickest sprinter as we explore nature's most extreme athletes. Through active games, hikes and experiments, campers will find out who are our nature's champions.

SEASONALLY ARTISTIC - Have fun seeing the many ways nature can influence art and find out which season inspires *you* the most! Through the tools that nature provides, discover new realms of your creativity. Use pine needles to paint a winter scene, let flowers be your inspiration for a springtime watercolor painting and harness the sun's rays for a summertime solar printing.

TROPICAL TREASURES - Imagine a place that is hot and humid, where it rains over 200 inches a year & the greatest variety of plants & animals are found. This unique treasure is the tropical rainforest. Discover who lives in the different layers of these fascinating forests, create your own tropical bromeliad plant & butterfly ring. Find out why this valuable resource is disappearing & learn what we can do to help.

WANISHI, WIGWAMS & WAMPUM - Use your imagination to see what it was like to live as a Native American child. Touch real tools and animal skins, visit a wigwam and play games like corn darts. Listen to stories, work with clay and learn how the Lenape Native Americans survived in the wilderness.



3-Day Camp - Monday, July 1 - Wednesday, July 3
For children entering 1st - 2nd grade

FAIRIES OF FIELD & FOREST - Use your imagination to explore the woods as fairies, elves or gnomes. Through art projects, stories and hikes, participants will enjoy a world of make-believe set within the natural world.

NATURE DISCOVERY CLUB - Take an in-depth look at the world of insects. Have fun visiting different habitats to discover the diversity of insect life found in the Watchung Reservation. Use sweep nets in the meadow, dip nets at the lake and special collecting jars in the forest to safely catch, identify and release crickets, beetles, ants, water scorpions and more.

FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 3rd & 4th GRADES

ART OF NATURE - Discover art in nature through sketches, painting and storytelling. Appreciate the natural world as you create masterpieces using rocks, clay and water. Spend an afternoon with the Rutgers Master Gardeners of Union County & explore the diversity of plants, flowers and trees.



BUGS & BEYOND - Did you know that insects represent over 90% of all living things on the earth and that a honeybee can travel up to 60 miles in one day to collect food? Build a spider web, play the monarch migration game and discover why bugs are important to people and the environment. Spend time in the Demonstration Garden with Rutgers Master Gardeners of Union County. Use sweep nets and magnifiers to investigate the diversity of insect life found in the gardens. Visit stream, pond, meadow and forest habitats to learn about the adaptations and lifecycles of these amazing creatures.



BIRDS OF A FEATHER - Explore the diverse world of birds and discover what makes them unique in the animal kingdom. Find out about different bird groups and the characteristics that make them different from one another. Explore some of the finer points of bird identification and start your own life list of bird sightings.

JUNIOR NATURALIST - Learn about the plants and animals living in and around water; develop a heightened awareness about the importance of conserving and preventing the pollution of this natural resource. Using dip and seine nets, capture and release aquatic insects, fish, frogs, toads and salamanders, and keep a journal of the number and types of plants and animals found in these areas.

Continued...

For Students Entering 3rd-4th Grades Continued...

LIFE IN COLD BLOOD - Take an in-depth look into the world of reptiles and amphibians. Find out important facts about these fascinating creatures and search for them each day at different sites in the reservation. Enjoy a visit from **Rizzo's Reptiles** and meet some live animals up close and personal. Discover what adaptations help these cold blooded animals survive.

TRAILSIDE TREKS - Join a Trailside Naturalist for a series of challenging excursions to sites in the Watchung Reservation. Hike to Lake Surprise, the Deserted Village of Feltville/Glenside Park, Watchung Stables, the ravine & the highest point in the Watchung Reservation. Wear sturdy shoes; bring a backpack with a water bottle and snack.

EXTREME EARTH - Through hands-on experiments, explore the reasons for Earth's natural disasters. Understand the science behind avalanches and earthquakes and investigate the causes and effects of tsunamis, tornadoes and volcanoes. Learn about the three lava flows in the history of the Watchung Reservation and collect rocks that help tell the story. Discover the differences between rocks, gems and minerals. Learn to use Mohs scale of hardness, find out why minerals fluoresce and excavate for "fossils."

3-Day Camp - Monday, July 1 - Wednesday, July 3
For children entering 3rd - 4th grade

MAGICAL & NATURAL MARVELS - Prepare to have fun in this entertaining camp based on ideas from the ever popular "*Harry Potter*" series of books. Campers will enjoy learning about medicinal and useful plants (herbology), practicing chemistry experiments (potions), learning about transfiguration (metamorphosis) and exploring the solar system (astronomy). Investigate habitats suitable for natural creatures such as snakes and salamanders, and discover which magical animals may inhabit the different environments.

WILD & RARE - There are many animals that are endangered locally and globally. Discover why so many species are in trouble and find out what you can do to help. Participate in a habitat restoration project to help our local wildlife and find out which endangered species lives here at the Trailside Visitor Center.

FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 5th & 6th GRADES

ALL ABOUT ANIMALS - Take an in-depth look into the animal kingdom. Find out interesting facts about mammals, reptiles, amphibians, birds, fish and insects. Meet live snakes, turtles, frogs and fish. Hike to different areas of the Reservation and use binoculars, sweep nets, dip nets and field guides to identify the variety of wildlife inhabiting the Watchung Reservation. Meet live animals with a visit from *Rizzo's Reptiles*.

BACKWOODS LORE - Learn how to identify plants that are safe to eat, build an emergency shelter that can keep you warm and dry and follow a course using only a map and compass. Find out how to identify and track local wildlife and see what it takes to get a fire going without matches! Are you ready for the challenge?

BEHIND THE SCENES - Go behind the scenes at Trailside and learn how the park naturalists care for all the animals that live in the museum. Build a mini-ecosystem and find out what all living things need to survive. Help to care for a wildlife management site and find out how you can make your backyard wildlife friendly.

GREEN TEAM - Make a solar cooker, play energy games, recycle and re-design a worn out t-shirt using tie dye. Throughout the week participate in fun-filled activities that demonstrate the importance of energy conservation and experiment with solutions to help clean up our waterways. Find out ways of living a greener lifestyle that will help keep the Earth healthy.



Continued...

3-Day Camp - Monday, July 1 - Wednesday, July 3
For children entering 5th - 6th grade

NATURALLY ARTISTIC - The beauty of nature has inspired many artists. Explore the world of visual arts with Trailside's very own, talented exhibit artists. Enjoy using mixed media such as acrylics, charcoal, water colors and clay to create your own masterpieces. From realistic to abstract, have fun as you try your hand at different forms of art.

SUMMER DISCOVERIES - There's a lot happening in nature during these hot summer months. Take a hike on a different trail each day and investigate the natural world around you. Look under rocks and logs for nature's recyclers, try to catch a frog, fish or tadpole at Surprise Lake, explore the river for salamanders and find out how all living things are connected.

FOR STUDENTS ENTERING 7th - 9th GRADES

NATURE TREKS - The 2060-acre Watchung Reservation offers over 13 miles of hiking trails. Through engaging activities and opportunistic hikes, participants will have fun learning how to identify trees, plants, wildlife and rocks while investigating this pristine region. Hike to seldom visited areas of the Reservation. Discover the art of tracking, try your hand at creating a plaster animal track and practice sketching nature. Wear sturdy shoes. Campers may be on the trail for much of the day. Please bring a backpack with your lunch in an insulated pack, two snacks & a refillable water bottle.



FAMILY PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Friday Family programs are for all ages and held rain or shine unless the weather is severe.

FEES:

IC: \$7/person

OC: \$8/person

WEEK	TUESDAY EVENING	FRIDAY FAMILY		CAMPFIRE/ CAMPOUT
1. June 24 - 28	June 25 Flashing Fireflies 8 - 9 PM			June 28-29 *Campout IC \$40/person OC \$45/person 6 PM - 10 AM
3. July 8 - 12		July 12 Stream Stroll 10 - 11 AM	July 12 A Time For Turtles 10 - 11 AM	Wed. July 10 Family Campfire 7 - 8:30 PM
4. July 15 - 19	July 16 Full Moon Hike 8 - 9 PM	July 19 Pond Search 10 - 11 AM	July 19 Sensory Trail Scavenger Hunt 10 - 11 AM	
5. July 22 - 26	July 23 Flashing Fireflies 8 - 9 PM	July 26 Bubblemania 10 - 11 AM	July 26 Do Snakes Have Stripes 10 - 11 AM	
6. July 29- Aug. 2		Aug. 2 Stream Stroll 10 - 11 AM	Aug. 2 A Time For Turtles 10 - 11 AM	
7. Aug. 5 - 9	Aug. 6 Evening Pond Search 7 - 8:30 PM	Aug. 9 Pond Search 10 - 11 AM	Aug. 9 Sensory Trail Scavenger Hunt 10 - 11 AM	
8. Aug. 12-16		Aug. 16 Bubblemania 10 - 11 AM	Aug. 16 Do Snakes Have Stripes 10 - 11 AM	

**Please Refer To The Family Program Chart
For All Dates, Times & Evening Programs.**

FRIDAY FAMILY PROGRAMS



A TIME FOR TURTLES - Discover what turtles eat, where they live, and how they survive in the wild. Take a walk to look for turtle habitats and meet live turtles from Trailside's collection.

BUBBLEMANIA - Big bubbles! Bubble towers and bubble bunches! Little kids can bubble to their heart's content while "big kids" try bubble challenges. Can you make a square bubble? How about bubbles within bubbles? **Wear:** bathing suit/clothes that can get wet.

DO SNAKES HAVE STRIPES? - Do snakes have bones and do they live under stones? Discover how spots, stripes and color patterns help snakes to survive in the wild. Find out if milk snakes drink milk or if corn snakes eat corn. Have fun learning spectacular snake facts about the 21 different kinds of snakes that live in NJ and meet live snakes from Trailside's reptile collection.

POND SEARCH - Use Trailside's strainers and dip nets to sample aquatic life at Seeley's Pond. Gently catch and identify frogs, fish, tadpoles and aquatic insects before releasing your catch back to their home. **Meet at:** Seeley's Pond paved parking lot. **Wear:** Shoes that can get wet and muddy.

SENSORY TRAIL SCAVENGER HUNT - Enjoy Trailside's new Sensory Trail and have fun investigating the natural world using four of our five senses. Touch pine trees that are prickly, see birds that are red, hear insects buzzing and find trees that smell like root beer.

STREAM STROLL - Beat the heat as you search the babbling brook for crayfish, salamanders and aquatic insects. Carefully collect, identify and release these tiny creatures and learn how they help predict the health of the stream.

Meet at: TMA Field (behind old museum)

Wear: Shoes that can get wet.



EVENING FAMILY PROGRAMS

Programs are held rain or shine unless the weather is severe. Please call Trailside to find out if a program has been cancelled due to inclement weather. **Programs are recommended for adults with children ages 6 & older.**

FLASHING FIREFLIES - Fireflies are a familiar sight in the summer. There is nothing more magical than watching the night sky light up with their flashes. Find out fascinating facts about these beautiful beetles. Take a walk along a wooded path in search of these insects.



FULL MOON HIKE - July's full moon is known as the Buck or Thunder Moon. Find out how the moon got its name and enjoy an evening walk by the light of this full moon. Search for nocturnal animals such as bats, raccoons and opossum.

EVENING POND SEARCH - Join us at Seeley's Pond as we search for aquatic life as the sun goes down. Use dip nets and strainers to catch, identify and release frogs, fish, insect larvae and tadpoles. **Wear:** Shoes that can get wet and muddy. **Meet at:** Seeley's Pond upper paved parking lot.

FAMILY CAMPFIRE

Join the Trailside staff for a campfire to celebrate the summer season. Start with lemonade & toasting marshmallows (weather permitting), then be a part of interactive stories, songs and skits. Lots of laughter & audience participation. Activities will be held indoors in bad weather. **For:** All ages.

FAMILY CAMPOUT FOR BEGINNERS

Introduce your family to camping out. Find out where to camp and what to bring for your future camping trips. Learn how to build, cook on & put out a campfire. During the evening, sharpen your night observation skills and enjoy s'mores by a campfire. On Saturday, join a naturalist on an early morning nature walk before breaking camp and heading home.

Participants must provide their own tent, sleeping bags & flashlights. Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, beverages, snacks & continental breakfast will be provided. **NO PETS**, please. **Rain or Shine.** **For:** Adults (18 & older) with children ages 6 and up. *This program is designed for the first-time campers.* **Meet:** TMA field (behind old museum)

Summer Nature Retreat Workshop for Adults with Special Needs

July 1 - 3, 2019

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Ages 18-21

Register
March 9th

Get outdoors and have fun learning basic survival skills such as shelter making, tracking and fire building. Each day will spend time outside in nature's classroom. Meet live animals, learn to read trail blazes & listen to music around a campfire.

Sensory Friendly Summer Camp for Kids with Special Needs

August 19 - 23, 2019

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Group 1: Ages 12-14

Group 2: Ages 15-17

Register
March 9th

Spend a week investigating the natural world using your senses of sight, sound, smell and touch. Experience Trailside's Sensory Friendly Trail and enjoy learning about the plants and animals that live in the Watchung Reservation, Union County's largest park. Develop an appreciation for the natural world through nature walks, hands-on activities, interactive games, scavenger hunts, arts & crafts, stories, live animals, a campfire and yoga. Meet live animals, spend time outside each day and experience all the beauty that nature has to offer.



Trailside Sensory Friendly Summer Camp & Retreat Workshop for People with Special Needs

Registration begins March 9th at www.ucnj.org/opdsn-reg

Program Cost: Free

The Trailside Sensory Friendly Summer Retreat Workshop (July 1-3) is appropriate for individuals who are between the ages of 18 - 21.

The Trailside Sensory Friendly Summer Camp (August 19 - 23) is appropriate for children who are between the ages of 12-17.

Eligibility Requirements For *All* Participants

- Have a documented disability
- May require additional supports, modifications, accommodations to participate and learn.
- May require prompting or re-direction to stay on-task.
- Does not engage in threatening or aggressive behaviors.
- Are able to independently use the toilet.

The Trailside Sensory Summer Camp Program is **not** appropriate for campers who:

- Have a history of fleeing or aggressive/threatening behavior.
- Require restraints to help stop behaviors.
- Cannot independently use the toilet.

Please note: Application does not guarantee entry to the workshop or camp. Initial application will be online, followed by an in-person interview prior to acceptance to the program.



For more information or any questions, please contact

Union County
Office for Persons with Disabilities and Special Needs
908-527-4781
opdsn@ucnj.org

Trailside Nature & Science Center



www.ucnj.org/trailside

(908) 789-3670

452 NEW PROVIDENCE ROAD
MOUNTAIN SIDE, NJ 07092



A facility of the Union County Department of Parks & Recreation

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