

A SERVICE OF THE  
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BOARD OF CHOSEN  
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**Union County**  
*We're Connected to You!*

# BIO-BLITZ 2010

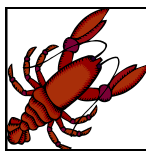
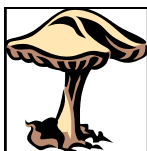
ESPOSITO PARK,  
CLARK RESERVOIR &  
MILTON LAKE PARK

Clark & Rahway, NJ

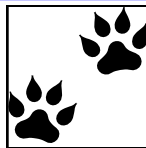
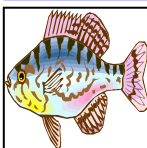
Friday & Saturday, June 11-12

5:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Rain or Shine



Free Admission!  
Nature Activities For All Ages!



Bio-Blitz Central Tent featuring:  
Live Animal Exhibits and Scientific Field Station!

*Sponsored by:*

Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders

Union County Dept. of Parks &

Community Renewal

Kean University \*Newark Museum

PSE&G

With

ShopRite, Stop & Shop, Starbucks,

Whole Foods, Panera Breads, Target,

NJ American Water, MC727Organics, Ducky Life,

Origanagaya Café, Jenkinson's Aquarium,

National Gardening Assoc., Wild Birds Unlimited

## WHAT IS BIO-BLITZ 2010?

A Bio-Blitz is a 24-hour intensive effort to measure the biodiversity ("species richness") of a natural area. Often, Bio-Blitzes are conducted in urban parks and green spaces.

Union County's ecologically diverse and historically rich parkland makes up the fifth oldest county park system in the nation. In 2005, the county began a systematic survey of its parks through the annual Bio-Blitz. This year, our 6th Annual Bio-Blitz will be held at Clark Reservoir and Esposito Park in Clark, and Milton Lake Park in Rahway. Union County will once again partner with Kean University to raise awareness of the diversity of life in this urban/suburban parkland and, in turn, the importance of preserving and managing essential wildlife habitat. We hope to foster a sense of stewardship and appreciation among school and community groups and individuals. Additionally, Bio-Blitz promotes the use of parkland as outdoor classrooms.

Throughout the evening of June 11th and the following day, scientists, expert naturalists, and amateurs will sample and identify as many plant and animal species as possible. The findings from this 24-hour "snapshot" will provide invaluable information about the parks' ecosystems and may help county officials manage parkland for wildlife.



### BIO-BLITZ 2010 COMMITTEE

**Amphibians and Reptiles:** Danny Mendez (Turtle Back Zoo)  
**Aquatic Invertebrates:** Steven Hruby (NJDEP/NJWAP/AmeriCorps)  
**Birds:** Frank Budney, (Friends of Lenape Park)  
**Chair:** Betty Ann Kelly (Union Co. Parks Community Renewal)  
**Education:** Sylvia Weisbrot  
**Environmental Monitoring:** John Dobosiewicz, PhD (Kean University, Elizabeth River/Arthur Kill Watershed Association)  
**Fish:** Shawn Crouse (NJDEP/DFW)  
**Fungi:** Dorothy Smullen & Marc Grobman (NJ Mycological Association)  
**Insects:** Sule Oygur, PhD (Newark Museum)  
**Mammals:** Holly Jantz, (Auburn University)  
**Photography:** Debbie Partesi, Gary Szelc, Natalie Gregorio  
**Plants:** John Medallis  
**Public Outreach:** Karen Inzillo, (TNSC-UCPCR)  
**Publicity:** Tom Plante, (UC Office of Public Information)

## WHY ESPOSITO PARK, CLARK RESERVOIR AND MILTON LAKE PARK?

The Clark Reservoir encompasses 168.25 acres and abuts the 51.44-acre Milton Lake Park. Esposito Park, the site of Bio-Blitz Central, is 13 acres in size, and aside from active recreation amenities such as a skate park and playground, includes a small wetland, stream, and wildflower meadow. Together, the 232.69-acre study site offers ample sampling opportunities. While Milton Lake Park was acquired by the County in 1936, Clark Reservoir and Esposito Park were both acquired in 2007. Originally called the Middlesex Reservoir, it was sold to the Township of Clark in 1997 and then sold to the County for \$1 in 2007. The purchase of the Reservoir and Esposito Park was made possible through the County's Open Space Trust Fund and is in keeping with the historic Olmsted vision of a connected greenway park system. Greenways provide valuable habitat, and act as a stopover and wildlife corridor for resident and migratory wildlife, including red tail hawks, great egrets, great blue herons, screech and great horned owls, coyotes, red fox, and much more.



*It is that range of biodiversity that we must care for - the whole thing - rather than just one or two stars.*  
—David Attenborough

## WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

*JOIN US FOR  
PUBLIC ACTIVITIES AND  
GUIDED WALKS!*

Everyone is invited to Bio-Blitz 2010. People of all ages, as well as school, scout, religious, and community groups are welcome to enjoy the many activities and workshops that will be offered. Possibilities include frog slogs, owl prowls, stream sampling, animal tracking, and bird walks, among other exciting activities. A complete schedule of events will be available at registration. The public will also have the opportunity to observe and, in some cases, work alongside scientists. The "Bio-Blitz Central" Tent will feature live plant and animal displays, informational exhibits, and a working field lab where identifications and findings will be recorded.

*SCIENTISTS,  
NATURALISTS, AND  
SERIOUS AMATEURS NEEDED  
FOR FIELD SURVEY TEAMS!*



If you have a passionate interest and/or area of expertise such as plant or animal identification, or if you are knowledgeable about local history, geology, or natural history, complete and mail the form to the right and join a team.

*Volunteers must be 14 years of age or older to participate on a team.*

The success of Bio-Blitz 2010 is dependent upon the size and skill of the teams; the bigger and more skillful the team, the more data we can collect and ultimately use to better manage our parkland.

*When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the universe. —John Muir*



# SIGN UP TODAY!

Complete and mail this form by

**May 15**

to:

***Betty Ann Kelly***

**Union County Dept. of Parks & Community Renewal**

**2325 South Avenue**

**Scotch Plains, NJ 07076**

**908-789-3683**

**bkelly@ucnj.org**

Name(s)/Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Expertise Level—please select one:**

\_\_\_ ***Expert***—I am very skilled at species ID within my interest and would be comfortable as a group leader or working independently.

\_\_\_ ***Amateur Naturalist***—I have a moderate level of skill in species ID within my interest and would be more comfortable if teamed up w/someone of a higher degree of expertise.

\_\_\_ ***Volunteer\****—I am interested in natural history and would like to join a group in the field.

## **Area of expertise or group you would like to assist: (circle one)**

|                     |                          |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Algae               | Insects                  |
| Amphibians/Reptiles | Macro Invertebrates      |
| Birds               | Mammals                  |
| Fish                | Plants                   |
| Fungi (macro/micro) | Water Quality Monitoring |
|                     | Other (list below)       |

***\*Volunteers are also needed for the following areas:***

\_\_\_ ***Bio-Blitz Central Docents***  
\_\_\_ ***Information Table***  
\_\_\_ ***Parking***  
\_\_\_ ***Photographer***  
\_\_\_ ***Program Assistants/Instructors***  
\_\_\_ ***Program Guides***  
\_\_\_ ***Registration***  
\_\_\_ ***Runners***

## ***PROGRAM REGISTRATION***

Are you interested in being contacted about:

***Program offerings?*** \_\_\_ yes \_\_\_ no

***If yes, size of group?*** \_\_\_\_\_

***Topics interested in?*** \_\_\_\_\_





When would you prefer to sample? (check all that apply)

- ☐ Friday evening (5:00 pm-dusk)
- ☐ Overnight\*
- ☐ Saturday morning (8:00 am—12noon)
- ☐ Saturday afternoon (1:00 pm– 5:00 pm)

\*What type of camping equipment do you have?  
(for specialists/scientists only)

- ☐ None
- ☐ 1, 2 or 4-person Tent
- ☐ Camp stove
- ☐ Other (list) \_\_\_\_\_

What type of sampling /identification equipment can you provide?

- ☐ GPS unit
- ☐ Nets (dip/seine/insect)
- ☐ Microscopes (stereoscope/compound)
- ☐ Sampling pans
- ☐ Hand lens/magnifying glasses
- ☐ Binoculars
- ☐ I.D./field guides
- ☐ Tape recorder
- ☐ Digital Camera
- ☐ Laptop for data entry
- ☐ Other (list) \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

Do you know of any other scientists or naturalists who might wish to participate? If so, may we contact them?

\_\_\_\_\_  
(name/address/phone/email)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(area of expertise?)

Comments:

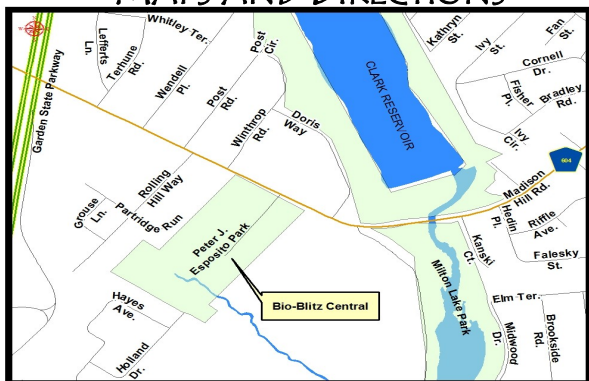
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for agreeing to participate!

\*for specialists/scientists only



# MAPS AND DIRECTIONS



## **From GS Parkway exit 135 Clark**

follow towards CLARK/BRANT AVE.

From Brant Ave, turn left on WESTFIELD AVE. (CR-613) - go 0.6 mi

Turn right on MADISON HILL RD.(CR-604) - go 0.8 mi to ESPOSITO PARK on left

## **From Elizabeth/Linden**

From St.George's Ave., turn right on Westfield Ave.(CR-613) - go 0.6 mi

Turn left on MADISON HILL RD(CR-604) - go 0.8 mi to ESPOSITO PARK on left

## **From Woodbridge**

From SAINT GEORGES AVE, RAHWAY, turn Left on WESTFIELD AVE(CR-613) - go 0.6 mi and follow above.

## **From Scotch Plains/Plainfield**

Follow MARTINE AVE(CR-655)/LAKE AVE(CR-655)

Bear left on OAK RIDGE RD(CR-607)/RARITAN RD(CR-607)- go 0.7 mi

Turn right on MADISON HILL RD(CR-604) - go 1.0 mi to ESPOSITO PARK on left

## **From Westfield/Mountainside**

From CENTRAL AVE, WESTFIELD, turn right on RARITAN RD(CR-607) - go 1.1 mi

Turn left on MADISON HILL RD(CR-604) - go 0.9 mi to ESPOSITO PARK on left

## **From Cranford**

From WALNUT AVE, turn right on RARITAN RD(CR-607) - go 1.5 mi and follow above.

## **In partnership with:**

*Auburn University, Alabama \* Brooklyn Botanic Garden*

*Colonia High School Fishing Club*

*Elizabeth River/Arthur Kill Watershed Association*

*Friends of Lenape Park \* Jenkinson's Aquarium*

*Newark Museum \* NJDEP Fish & Wildlife*

*NJ Mycological Association*

*NJDEP Watershed Ambassador Program /AmeriCorps*

*Springfield Environmental Commission*

*Clark Environmental Commission*

*Trailside Nature & Science Center \* Turtle Back Zoo*

**For info. re: Union County Bio-Blitzes go to:**

**<http://www.ucnj.org/parks/bioblitz.html>**

**Union County Dept. Parks & Community Renewal**  
**2325 South Avenue**  
**Scotch Plains, NJ 07076**

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**370/059**

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