

Duke Farms

A New Jersey Audubon Partner Site

80 Route 206 South, Hillsborough, NJ 08844 (enter via Dukes Parkway East)
Phone: 908.722.3700 Website: www.dukefarms.org

HOURS: Those wishing to attend a program at Duke Farms must register in advance with Duke Farms.

A 1.25-mile self-guided nature trail located on the property is free and open to the public Friday through Sunday, 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M., with no advance registration required.



Michael Pollock, Teacher-Naturalist

Spring 2012 Programs

March through May

NOTE: REGISTRATION THROUGH DUKE FARMS ONLY

NOTE: Big changes are coming to Duke Farms this spring!! There will be expanded opportunities for independent exploration and programs and events not listed here; be sure to check on both the Duke Farms Website (www.dukefarms.org) and the New Jersey Audubon Duke Farms page: (<http://www.njaudubon.org/SectionCenters/SectionDuke/WelcometoNJAudubonAtDukeFarms.aspx>) regularly, for updates. Beginning spring 2012, all programs will originate in the new Orientation Center in the Farm Barn on Dukes Parkway West. Check the website for directions.

Located on 2,740 acres in Hillsborough, N.J., Duke Farms is one of the largest privately-owned parcels of undeveloped land in the state, and one of the first sites designated by New Jersey Audubon as an Important Bird Area. New Jersey Audubon has been working with Duke Farms to conduct natural history programming on the property. These programs require preregistration which **MUST** be done through the reservation system at Duke Farms.

You can find more information and register online by visiting www.dukefarms.org or by calling 908.722.3700 between 11:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M.

All programs are held rain or shine, unless stated otherwise. It is always a good idea to check the weather before you come, to make sure that you are appropriately dressed. You will be contacted in the event that a program is cancelled and will be provided with rescheduling information or the option of receiving a refund.

WONDERFUL WETLANDS

Saturday, March 24

8:00 to 11:00 A.M.

As the weather begins to warm, Spring Peepers, salamanders, and other creatures seek out our wonderful wetlands to live and breed. Previously farmed fields have been modified to restore them to natural wetland habitat as a result of a partnership between Duke Farms, the federal Department of Agriculture, and US Fish and Wildlife Service. Explore these fascinating changes with a New Jersey Audubon naturalist while starting the process of creating an inventory of the birds and wildlife using the habitat. This program is designed for adults and focused young people. Boots are advised for this program which will run rain or shine. Limit: 20.

Cost: \$12/person

(NJ Audubon members, \$8/person).

SPRING PEEPERS AND OTHER WONDERS –

A FAMILY EXPERIENCE

Saturday, March 31

(Rain date Sunday, April 1)

1:30 to 3:30 P.M.

Warm March days are met with the sounds of Spring Peepers in our vernal ponds. Join NJ Audubon naturalists as we explore the habitats at Duke Farms for evidence that winter is behind us and spring is not far away. Whatever we find we will explore. This program is designed for children ages 3 to 8, accompanied by an adult. Dress for the weather, including appropriate footwear. Limit: 8 families or approximately 16 people.

Cost: \$7/person (NJ Audubon members, \$5/person); maximum of \$20 per family.

DANCE OF THE WOODCOCK

(Dates dependent on weather)

Seldom seen, the American Woodcock is a shorebird that lives in the forest. Also known affectionately as a “timberdoodle,” this plump relative of the sandpipers, with no apparent neck, probes the ground for earthworms and grubs. One of the marvels of spring is the “dance” of the male woodcock. When mating season arrives, the male displays for a mate with an elaborate flight, usually conducted just before dark. Watch the website(s) for details

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