**Poricy Park Conservancy**

**250 acres of open space, wildlife and their habitats**

*Prehistoric fossil beds • Historic Murray Farmhouse*

**Something For Everyone! Adults, Teens, Kids of All Ages!**

**Summer 2015 Community Programs**

Check our website (www.PoricyPark.org) for updates and new programs that may be added during the season.

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**2015 Summer Camps!**

**ACCEPTING REGISTRATIONS**

Our camps have imaginative weekly themes which include hands-on art, science, and outdoor activities that inspire camper’s curiosity and love of nature.

Register for your camp sessions before they fill! We have sibling and multiple week discounts to help! 2015 Poricy Park Summer Camp brochure with individual weekly descriptions can be viewed online at www.PoricyPark.org.

Have questions or need more info? Call us Monday through Friday between 9am-4pm.

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**Heart Willing Volunteers**

Ancient origins of the word “volunteer” from many cultures translate to ‘the willing heart’. Volunteers will meet on Wednesdays after school to perform various needed tasks that may include preparing newsletters for mailing, preparing supplies for programs or even providing care and maintenance of our nature trails and gardens! You can choose to donate an hour or more – your assistance is important and appreciated! Please contact us in advance so that we may be prepared with projects for you. To volunteer, call the Nature Center at 732-842-5966, Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm. **Meet at the Nature Center.**

**Wednesdays • 2:30pm-5pm**

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**Weekend at Poricy Park • May 2nd & 3rd**

**Weekend in Old Monmouth Murray Farmhouse & Barn Open! FREE EVENT**

Explore our 1770’s historic Murray farmhouse and barn as one of the many important sites open for this celebration of Monmouth County history! We will showcase the life of our own Monmouth Militia patriot, Joseph Murray, and his family with activities such as Colonial children’s games, womanly arts, cooking over an open hearth, tours of our authentic 18th century house and barn! Appropriate for all ages (children must be accompanied & supervised by their adult). **Meet at the Murray Farmhouse.**

**Saturday, May 2nd, 10am-5pm**

**Sunday, May 3rd, 12pm-5pm**

**People’s Choice Car Show**

**Saturday, May 2nd & Sunday, May 3rd, 11am-4pm**

FREE Admission (If it rains on May 2nd, then the event will only be held on May 3rd.) The show will includes Cars of the Decades, 1900-2000, an antique tractor display and as well as new cars from local dealers. Awards will be given out on both days. Details, fees and the registration form for Exhibitors is available for download on our website.

**Thank you to our Benefactor Sponsors**

**Buhler Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram of Hazlet and Straub Motors of Keyport.**

**Spring Plant Sale**

**Green Thumbs!**

Spring into gardening this year and purchase some of your seedlings at the Murray farmstead! We will be offering simple plants that would have been common to Rebecca Murray such as tomatoes, peppers and herbs! Tour our colonial kitchen garden while you are here and we'll tell you about the various plant combinations and more fun facts! First come first served – prices vary. **Meet at the Murray Farmhouse.**

**Saturday, May 2nd, 10am-5pm**

**Sunday, May 3rd, 12pm-5pm**

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Poricy Park Summer Camp and Community Programs are run by Poricy Park Conservancy, a non-profit 501(c)(3).

345 Oak Hill Road • Middletown, NJ 07748

www.PoricyPark.org • 732-842-5966

Please call the Nature Center Mon-Fri to register for a program.
Exciting Activities
Nature’s Classroom
For children aged 3 1/2 to 6 years old
Explore the amazing world of nature at Poricy Park! Our nurturing naturalist uses stimulating themes to engage children with hands-on art, science and outdoor activities. These are ongoing sessions; you may sign up for multiple weeks or individual weeks that meet your schedule. Class size is limited and program payment is required with signed registration form!
Monday Afternoons • 12pm-2pm through June 15th
Fee: Multiple session & sibling discounts available
Members $18 per session; non-members $22 per session
Note: Registration required one week in advance.

Rainbows of Color
Wildflower Hike
Discover rainbows of color on this guided tour throughout the scenic fields and forests on Poricy Park trails. These special wildflowers have many shapes, sizes and stories to share! Remember to dress for the weather and insects. Appropriate for all ages (children must be accompanied & supervised by their adult). Please courteously register in advance so we may meet our required minimum.
Meet at the Nature Center. Saturday, May 9th & Sunday, August 9th • 5:30pm-6:30pm
Fee: $3 per Member; $6 per Non-member

Ancient Treasure Hunt
Community Fossil Hunt
April rains bring May flowers and releases many fossils into Poricy Brook! Celebrate the warm sunny days with this exciting activity. Beginning at the Nature Center, our experienced guide will prepare you for your journey back in time 65 million years! We will provide the trowels & sifters and help you identify your treasures! Please dress for the weather and wear rubber boots or old sneakers. Your feet WILL get wet!
Note: Sandals and slip-on footwear prohibited. Remember to bring a small bag to hold your five best finds! Registration is needed so we will have enough supplies!!! Appropriate for adults and children (children must be accompanied & supervised by their adult). Meet at the Nature Center.
Sunday, May 17th • 1:30pm-3pm OR 3:30pm-5pm
Sundays, June 28th, July 19th, August 16th
2pm-3:30pm OR 4pm-5:30pm OR 6pm-7:30pm
Fee for all attending: $8 per Member; $25 per Family Membership (individual household); $10 per Non-member; $30 per Non-Member individual household

World Science Week Celebration
We’ll put on our lab coats and goggles as we discover science wonders through fun hands-on experiments! Registration is limited to 20 participants per session. Advanced registration will secure your place!!! Appropriate for children age 5 through 10 (children must be accompanied & supervised by their adult). Meet at the Nature Center.
Sunday, May 24th 1pm-2pm OR 2:30pm-3:30pm OR 4pm-5pm
Fee: Members: $8 per participant + $6 each additional sibling
Non-Members: $10 per participant + $8 each additional sibling

PROGRAM FEES

The Poricy Park Conservancy strives to provide quality programs at a reasonable cost to our visitors. Your generous contributions assist us in sustaining our operation.
Pre-Registration is requested for all programs unless noted otherwise, allowing us to plan supplies and instructor coverage accordingly. When walk-in registrations are available please call ahead to check availability. Although walk-in registration the day of program is available with some programs, a program will be cancelled if the pre-registration minimums are not met.
Please call the Nature Center, 732-842-5966.
M-F, 9am-4pm to register.

PROGRAMS ARE HELD RAIN OR SHINE, SO PLEASE DRESS ACCORDINGLY.

To Register For a Program, Call the Nature Center at 732-842-5966 Monday-Friday, 9am-4pm
Meet at the Murray Farmhouse.

Join us for some stimulating conversation and relaxing tea! Meeting in our historic Murray farmhouse.

- May: “Annis Boudinot Stockton” Ellen Jackson will share insights on the life of this prominent New Jersey woman who lived at Morven in Princeton. We will also delve into some of Annis’ published poems including ones sent to George Washington.
- June: “Opposites Attract!” Join us to discuss the opposites of multiple topics such as the oppression of women in colonial times; ‘True Patriots’ stood by their king; Rich bigots founded the United States!
- July: “The little Ice Age” Chat with us about the Big Consequences of the Little Ice Age between the early 14th and late 19th centuries!
- August: “The Great Divide” Lenita Gullman will share “hidden” insights from acclaimed historian Thomas Fleming regarding the clash between two gifted men – George Washington and Thomas Jefferson both of whom cared deeply about the United states, profoundly influenced the next two centuries of history and resonates in the present day!

Donations gratefully accepted and will help support continuing educational programming at Poricy Park Conservancy and are tax deductible!

We Love Poricy Park Day! Celebrate Natural & Living History FREE EVENT

Show your love for Poricy Park and enjoy an afternoon filled with exciting activities like geocaching, guided hikes, scavenger hunts, obstacle course plus the celebration of the Joseph Murray Family who built the farmhouse and barn in 1770. There will be historical tours and demos of colonial chores & games! Join in this opportunity that culminates with a reenactment at 4pm! Please note: there will be a black powder demo which is loud. Appropriate for everyone (children must be accompanied and supervised by their adult).

Saturday, June 6th - 1pm-4pm
(Farmhouse activities begin at 2pm)

Living History
Flag Day FREE EVENT

On June 14, 1777 the Second Continental Congress passed the Flag Act creating a flag for our new country. Join us at the Murray farmhouse to celebrate the 238th anniversary of the Stars & Stripes. Learn how the flag has changed over the years and see other flags that were flown at the time of the American Revolution.

Meet at the Murray Farmhouse.
Sunday, June 14th - 1pm-3pm

Guided Hiking

Explore the many habitats of Poricy with our experienced naturalist as we search for animals of the day, night and in-between. Learn what animals are active during specific parts of this day with the most sunlight. You’ll even create your own sundial to take home! Remember to dress for the weather and insects. Appropriate for adults and children of all ages (children must be accompanied & supervised by their adult). Please courtesy register in advance. Meet at the Nature Center.

Sunday, June 21st - 7:30pm-8:30pm

Fee: $3 per Member; $6 per Non-member

Kites!

Join in a Poricy Park classic. Our instructor will share kite flying history and safety, then show you how to make a kite! Then you will construct and decorate your own kite so you can launch your amazing creation on the Nature Center lawn! (Weather permitting.) Appropriate for adults & school age children accompanied & supervised by their adult. Younger children welcome with adult assistance. Please register in advance so that we will have enough supplies! NOTE: Limited session sizes - Maximum of 20 participants per session. Meet at the Nature Center.

Sunday, July 12th - 2pm-3:30pm OR 4pm-5:30pm OR 6pm-7:30pm

Fee (includes materials to create one kite): $8 members; $10 non-members

Guided Historic Tours

Murray Farmhouse Open House

Join us for our annual open house! Enjoy a personal tour of this unique New Jersey State Historic site with its amazing construction dating back to Colonial times – 1770! Discover the unique replica artifacts that performed the work of today’s modern conveniences. Appropriate for all ages (children must be accompanied & supervised by their adult). Meet at the Murray Farmhouse.

Sunday, July 26th, 1pm-4pm

Fee: Donations welcomed and appreciated

Unique Guided Tours

Murray Barn Open House

Come see the barn that Joseph Murray built. View our original 18th century timbers and the unusual root cellar. There will be many artifact replicas to discover as well. Our experienced interpreter will be glad to share the story! Appropriate for all ages (children must be accompanied & supervised by their adult).

Meet at the Murray Barn.

Sunday, August 30th, 1pm-4pm

Fee: Donations welcomed and appreciated

Thank You Corner!

- Special thanks to volunteer Lenita Gullman for her time and expertise at our hearth dinner event.
- Thank you to volunteers at our community events.
- Students and families of Oak Hill Academy for their monetary donation that they raised on “Dress Down Day”.
- Park Volunteers/Members and members of the Middletown Newcomers Club for the cartons of eggs donated for our seasonal programs.
- Friends of the Park who have donated office & craft supplies, beads, and yarn, allowing both the office staff and our visitors to continue the fun here at Poricy!
Now that plants are growing - What the heck is an invasive plant?

An organism is considered exotic when it has been introduced by humans to a location outside its natural range. An exotic species becomes invasive when it displays rapid growth and spread, establishes over large areas, and persists. Invasive species impact native plants, animals and natural ecosystems by:

- Reducing biodiversity
- Altering water and soil characteristics
- Interfering with natural succession
- Competing for pollinators, repels or poisons native insects
- Displacing rare plant species

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- Competes for pollinators, repels or poisons native insects
- Displaces rare plant species
- Increases predation on nesting birds
- Replaces complex communities with single species
- Dilutes the genetic composition of native species

For additional information, one of many sites to visit is http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/

Outdoor Activities

- Rent fossil hunting equipment & find ancient treasure!
- Rent a Nature backpack with binoculars, magnifying lens & field guides & explore!
- Download a hiking trail map from our website (www.PoricyPark.org) and enjoy 250 acres of nature and wildlife!

Requests For Donations

- Craft wiggly eyes – 10mm size
- Craft sticks (Popsicle sticks) – mini, regular & large
- Costume jewelry (we will dissemble & reuse)
- 16 oz. Tempera Paints
- Thank you for your support!!

Look For These Upcoming Programs/Events

- FROG FEST – SEPTEMBER 13TH
- MONARCH FEST – SEPTEMBER 27TH
- SCOUTING SKILLS – OCTOBER 3RD

Check our website (www.PoricyPark.org) for updates & new programs that may be added during the season.

Are you a member of Poricy Park? Poricy Park Conservancy is a non-profit 501(c)(3).

Join or renew on-line today! www.PoricyPark.org

At Poricy Park!

Summer Programs

Poricy Park Conservancy

P.O. Box 36 • Oak Hill Road
Middletown, NJ 07748
732-822-5966
www.PoricyPark.org

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