

news

Visit our website at
www.flatrockbrook.org

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Flat Rock Brook News is published quarterly by the Flat Rock Brook Nature Association as a membership benefit. The Nature Center encompasses 150 acres of natural woodland open free to the public every day. The Association sponsors a variety of programs and welcomes new members:

Executive Director: Madeline Dennis
Education Director: Theresa Spataro
Park Ranger: Harold Clarte
Office Manager: Patty Wallace
Office Assistant: Linda Schneider

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Spring calendar

March

- 2 First Friday for volunteers
- 11 Family walk
- 14 Xeriscape gardening
- 17 Project Wet
- 21 Ecology Club begins
- 22 Project Wet
- 25 House plant workshop
- 28 Ecology Club

April

- 4, 1, 18 Ecology Club continues
- 6 First Friday for volunteers
- 6 Night sky
- 10, 17 Wildlife Watchers series
- 16, 23, 30 Young Explorers Series
- 22 Clearwater Sail

May

- 1 Wildlife Watchers cont.
- 4 First Friday for volunteers
- 4, 5 Garden Club Flower Show
- 1, 3, 5, 6, 8 Bird walks
- 10, 12, 13, 19 More bird walks
- 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Sunset hikes
- 7, 14, 21 Young Explorers cont.
- 12 Scavenger hunt
- 20 Nature Day

Honey bee help needed

We need a new bee keeper to maintain our two honey bee hives. If you have bee keeping knowledge, we could use your volunteer help. Or if you have an interest in learning about honey bees, we will send you to the Rutgers University beekeeping course. Call our office for more information.

What we saw this winter

Deer, palm warblers, a turkey on thanksgiving, great blue heron, kingfisher, northern short tailed shrew, skunks, Carolina wrens, 23 bird species and 442 individual birds on the Christmas bird count including 97 juncos, 93 morning doves, 3 red-tailed hawks, 9 downy woodpeckers and 3 fox sparrows.

Welcome to 13 new members

David Cavanaugh, Valeria Cordoba, Jean Greenfield, Arnold Kronfeld, Drew Lehman, Asbed and Sosy Marashian, Daniel and Susan Newman, Ivan Radetich, Ronald and Pammela Ranaldi, Douglas and Maria Salmon, David and Debra Sweet, Alisa Weinrib, Joel and Judy Weinstein.

Thanks to our friends

Don McNeil and Matt Kurac for helping at the Christmas bird count, Judy Scanlan, Carolyn Stenzel, Mona Gold, Joan Nunnery, Mercer O'Hara for help at Open House, Don McNeil and Margo Moss, Gallya Gordon for program assistance, Marie Karanfilian for counting the birds at Project Feederwatch. A special thanks to our neighbor Allyson Powers Johnson for doing a litter clean-up at Flat Rock as part of Wellesley College's day of service last fall.

Job openings

Two full-time paid summer job openings are available at Flat Rock Brook. We are seeking a summer camp teacher Monday to Friday 9 am to 4 pm from mid-June to mid-August to develop the curriculum and teach our nature camp for children in first through seventh grades. We are also seeking a summer park ranger five days a week from the end of May through August to assist with park maintenance. The ranger must be available to work weekends. Call the office for more information.

Wish List

Computer Pentium II, taxidermy specimens, Snow blower (2 stage, wheel drive), mailing machines

Other groups meet at Flat Rock Brook

Many groups sponsor programs at Flat Rock for adults on various environmental and other topics. Many programs are free to the general public. There are fees for classes. Call the person listed for information on dates and topics: Bergen County Audubon Society, Ken Witkowski 973-208-9808; Bergen Count Mineralogy and Paleontology Society, Gerry Nissman 201-568-8190; N.J. Sierra Club, North Jersey group, Tom Morris 201-489-9321; Ramapo Orchid Society, Morty Kostetsky 201-944-1114; N.Y. Botanic Garden courses, see page 2; Watercolor painting classes, Cochet Art Studio 201-871-3765; Poetry and prose writing classes, Jane Weishaus 201-595-1637.

Remember Flat Rock Brook in your will

A bequest is a provision in your will that will help provide financial security for your family, friends and causes close to your heart. We hope you will consider making a bequest to the Flat Rock Brook Nature Association. A bequest of any size can help ensure that future of the Nature Center by enhancing its endowment fund. Please call Flat Rock's director Madeline Dennis at 567-1265 for more information.

