



**Baltimore Woods
Nature Center**
Nature in your hands

the Overlook

Spring



2011

Volume 25



Number 1

Discover Sustainable Living

At Baltimore Woods we think of sustainability as a way of living that leaves the planet in good shape for future generations. For many, this brings images of solar panels and low emission cars. These are big steps that help, but living sustainably has many faces, and opportunities abound! Join us this spring to experience some of the more subtle faces of sustainability.

In the Weeks Art Gallery:

**SUNY Empire State College
presents:**

Visualizing Ecosystems

March 10th – April 28, 2011

Public Reception:

Saturday, March 26th, 2-4pm

Through interdisciplinary study, students use photography to investigate the natural environment. Free and open to the public.



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www.baltimorewoods.org

The Many Faces of Sustainability

By Katie Mulverhill

Many of the simple things we do everyday help the environment and lessen our ecological footprint. I find many of them are fun and satisfying. One of my favorite ways to live sustainably is to support locally produced goods and services. I love to eat farm fresh foods and explore all the wonderful small businesses in my community. The money I spend helps strengthen my community's economy, and I help to keep the planet healthy by lowering the impact of shipping my food and goods across the world.

I have also started to view gardening in a new light. In the past I was happy to let the previous homeowner's plants grow. Recently, I decided to try growing a few veggies on my back deck. I can't even begin to describe how helping plants grow makes me feel. That feeling has started to spread to the other plants surrounding my home. So many of them are common plants you can find in any nursery, but not many of them would be found growing here naturally. I don't know much about making the switch to native plants, but luckily I don't have to learn it all on my own, and neither do you. Baltimore Woods will be hosting a Wildlife Gardening Series this spring, led by local expert Janet Allen. You can also come to our Native Plant Sale to find those elusive natives for your gardens.

I love to take trips to far off places, but the driving, flying, and staying far from home can damage

more than just my wallet — they also impact the environment. With that in mind I have decided to find entertainment closer to home this year. There is no need to travel to Costa Rica to see exotic bird species; just pay closer attention to the spring bird migration and the exotic species that stop over here. There are many alternatives to a family trip to the oceanfront, too. Try spending time with family enjoying native wildflowers and taking smaller trips to local places together. The Eggs-travaganza just before Easter, and the Mother's Day Garden Tour are both fun family events that are close to home. If you can't wait that long for a chance to get outside to celebrate spring with friends and neighbors, then join us for our Maples and Music celebration in March. These are all fun ways to enjoy yourself that don't require long trips or big environmental impacts. Living sustainably is more about looking at the world differently and enjoying things close to home than making big changes to your life.





**Baltimore Woods
Nature Center**
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The Overlook

The Overlook is a membership benefit of Baltimore Woods Nature Center. Reproduction without permission is prohibited. Baltimore Woods is a not-for-profit organization that offers people of all ages opportunities to enjoy and learn about nature first-hand in a positive environment that encourages lifelong respect for nature, for others, and for self. The Interpretive Center is open Monday through Friday 9am to 4pm, and Saturday 10am to 4pm. Closed Sunday. Hiking trails are open every day dawn to dusk. Hiking and parking are free.

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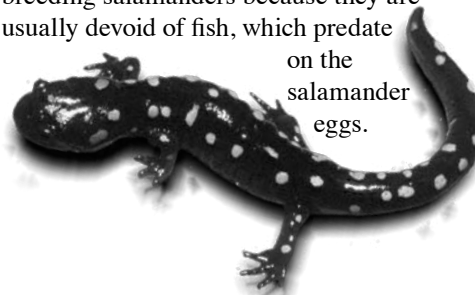
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Salamanders on the Move

By Julia Welch, *Intern*

April showers bring May flowers, and also scores of salamanders! Each spring, warm weather and rainfall raise levels in the water table, creating woodland ponds, also called vernal pools. These temporary bodies of water are the destination of breeding salamanders because they are usually devoid of fish, which predate



on the
salamander
eggs.

Movements of salamanders to these breeding ponds occur in groups of as many as hundreds at a time, and salamanders often return to the very pools in which they were born. These mass migrations usually take place on the first warm, rainy nights of spring as the change in temperature triggers the amphibians to emerge from their winter dormancy. Remarkable as these migrations are, they are also incredibly dangerous for these animals, as they often cross busy roadways and pass under the noses of hungry predators. As spring approaches, we can look forward to observing the subtle salamander embark on its momentous journey.

Under a Salamander Moon

By Rebecca Lynch

Awakening from my winter's nap,
Digging to the surface,
I peek out into the warm rainy night,
Danger all around me, yet I must make this journey.
Slowly moving now under the leaf litter,
Following the way to the pond of my birth;
The silent yearning quickening my movements, no time to waste;
Approaching a large black river, yet I do not sense water,
Loud noises, blinding lights, I must not delay,
Lights getting brighter, instinct screaming to go faster, terror taking over my movements,
Suddenly safe on the other side, the tip of my tail left behind on the terrible black river,
A testament to the death I narrowly escaped.
A familiar scent of true water and my kin is near,
The males have begun the lover's dance, females entranced by their movements.
My mate approaches, laying a pouch at my feet which I gladly take.
It is over; I leave my young in protective cases, wishing silently for their survival.
For next spring they will have to make their own journeys under a Salamander Moon.



March

Calendar of Events

Fridays and Saturdays March 4 - April 9th Project Feeder Watch 10am-4pm

Become a citizen scientist by helping Baltimore Woods' Naturalists keep track of the birds that visit our feeders. Data that you collect is added to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's national database, and is an invaluable part of their ongoing research to track and protect birds throughout the country. Drop in on Fridays or Saturdays through April 9th, while the interpretive center is open. Call ahead for availability; occasionally events may limit access.

5 Saturday Fly Tie 11am-noon

Spring fishing is almost here and those flies won't tie themselves! Join Tom for a relaxing Saturday morning at the tying vise. Don't forget your tools, materials, and fish stories. Please register, donations appreciated.

8 Keep it Natural: Magical Maples and Munchies 10:30-11:30am

Join us for a celebration of all things maple as we discover the wonders of this native tree. Program will include a quick tour of the sugarbush, yummy maple confections, and a recipe swap. \$5 for members; \$8 for nonmembers.

16 Volunteer Lunch Noon

Baltimore Woods greatly appreciates all the volunteers who give their time and efforts to help further our mission. So, on the third Wednesday of the month volunteers are invited to a lunch of locally harvested foods at the Interpretive Center. All volunteers are welcome!

19 Maples and Music 1-4pm

Warmer days are upon us! Join Baltimore Woods Nature Center for our traditional community celebration of the official start of spring. Tours of the sugarbush and maple sugaring operation will be given on the hour. Back in the center enjoy music provided by Marcellus Bluegrass, and sweet maple treats. Tour tickets are \$5 for members, \$15/family; or \$8 for nonmembers, \$25/family. Donations for the music are appreciated.

21 through April 9 Amphibian Alert!

Each spring during the first warm rainy night after the equinox, hundreds of amphibians creep from underground lairs to vernal pools. To find out when Baltimore Woods will attempt to observe this migration at Labrador Hollow, watch for alerts on our website, or call 673-1350 to be put on our alert list. \$5 for members, \$15/family; \$8 for nonmembers, \$25 / family.

25 Star Party: Mercury Rising 7-9pm

Goodbye to winter skies and hello to spring; one of the best chances to see the elusive planet Mercury. Saturn will be rising in the east as it gets dark. *Note: We're now on daylight saving time. Sunset is at 7:15.* Come early to see Mercury. \$5 for members, \$15/family; \$8 for nonmembers, \$25/family. **Back-up date March 26.**

26 Artist Reception 2-4pm

Visualizing Ecosystems reception in the art gallery. Free, and open to the public.

26 Earth Hour 2011 8:30-9:30pm

Last year hundreds of millions of people across 128 countries turned out their lights for one hour in support of a global movement to curtail climate change. To find out more about Earth Hour, sponsored by World Wildlife Fund, visit www.earthhour.org.



Amphibian migrations happen at night, so bring your flashlights.

April Spring Break Camp

Mud Week 2011!

April 18-22

Bring on the mud! It's time for spring break and that can only mean Mud Week at Baltimore Woods! Join us for a week of exploration and adventure in the spring mud. We'll explore the pond, the beaver dams, Harrison's Hideaway, and more! Don't miss the 5th Annual Great Log Roll Off! Check out the Baltimore Woods website for details and registration forms. Space is limited, so register early! Ah...*mud!*

Summer Nature Day Camp

Summer is just around the corner, and that means only one thing...Baltimore Woods Camp! Come play in The Woods as only kids know how – lots of adventure, discovery, and tons of fun! Summer Nature Day Camp runs from July 11th through September 2nd for ages 5-12. Nature's Little Explorers camp (for four year olds) will also be available this year. And don't forget about Teen Camp for 13 and 14 year olds! More information on the camps, schedules, and registration materials can be found on our website. Special discounts are available if you register before April 30th! *See you in the swamp!*



Habitat Gardening Series with Janet Allen

Throughout April, May, and June, habitat gardening expert Janet Allen presents a six part series to help you get the most out of your yard while providing habitat for wildlife.

Programs are held at Baltimore Woods, on Saturdays from 2-3:30pm. Visit www.baltimorewoods.org for complete program descriptions. Cost per program: \$5 members; \$8 nonmembers.

April 30th

Habitat Gardening for Life

By providing habitat for even the smallest creatures and by using earth-friendly landscaping practices, we can help create a healthy planet for our future generations.

May 7th

Gardening for Monarchs and Other Butterflies

Learn how to create a Monarch Waystation to help the monarch butterfly, and how you can provide for the needs of other butterflies, too.

May 14th

Our Future Flies on the Wings of Pollinators

Learn about the importance of pollination in our own gardens and beyond, the challenges bees face, and simple steps you can take in your own yard to help these useful creatures.

May 21st

Creating a Bird Friendly Yard

Learn how to enhance your yard so it appeals to even more birds, and how you can help conserve birds beyond your own yard.

May 28th

"Green" Your Yard

You can help create a healthy planet by using earth-friendly landscaping and gardening practices right in your own yard.

June 11th

Designing a Habitat Garden

You know you want a habitat garden, but how to begin? We'll talk about the design principles and strategies that can help you create a habitat garden.

April

Calendar of Events

2 Habitat Gardening Workshop with Carolyn Summers

8-10am Session 1: Why Natives? and Principles of Safe Sex in the Garden

10:30am-12:30pm Session 2: Basic

Design Concepts and Showy Native Plants

Each session: \$25/members; \$35/nonmembers, Both sessions: \$40/members; \$60/nonmembers
More information on back cover

9 Saturday Fly Tie

11am-noon

See March 5th for program description

12 Keep it Natural: Sally Hunt

10:30-11:30am

Baltimore Woods is home to several species of salamanders. Join us on a spring hike in search of sallys and their habitats. \$5 for members; \$8 for nonmembers.

16 "Eat Your Enemy" Earth Day Event

10am-1pm



Once again, The Woods needs you to be part of our special task force against the highly invasive garlic mustard. This edible plant was brought

to America as part of pioneer gardens; however, it is invasive and now endangers native woodland wildflowers. Whether you volunteer pulling garlic mustard or sprucing up the grounds, gardens and trails, you will be treated to a unique and delicious lunch featuring garlic mustard as the special ingredient. Bring your friends and eat your enemy! Please register.

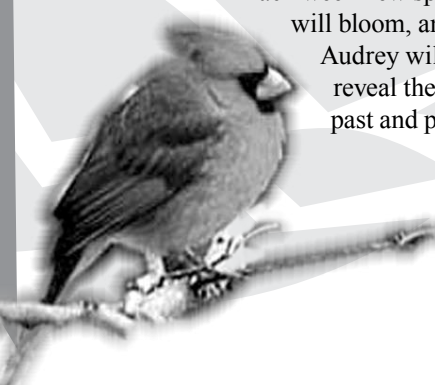
16, 17, 23, 24, 30

Weekend Wildflower Walks

2-3pm

Baltimore Woods' premier woodland wildflower garden is a local treasure. Join caretaker Audrey Loewer for a pleasant walk through one of the wonders of spring.

Each week new species will bloom, and Audrey will reveal their past and present



medicinal and culinary uses. The garden is handicap accessible; please call ahead if you need assistance. Donations appreciated.

18-22 Adventure Day Camp

9am-4pm

See March sidebar for more information

22 Star Party: Lyrid Meteor Shower

8:30-10:30pm

Join Barefoot Bob to catch the Lyrid meteor shower, caused by dust from the Comet Thatcher. Saturn will be at its closest and brightest for the year. Bring a lawn chair or blanket if you want to lie back and watch for meteors. \$5 for members; \$15/family; \$8 for nonmembers, \$25/family.

Back-up date: April 23.

23 Natural Eggs-travaganza

10:30-noon

Families are invited to this celebration of spring that includes natural egg dying and a treasure hunt through Baltimore Woods. First, follow the clues to the golden egg, your ticket to tasty treats. Then, back at the center, enjoying dying eggs with natural dyes. Registration required. Members \$15/family; nonmembers \$25/family.

27 Birding Series: Getting Started

7-8:30pm

Baltimore Woods and the Onondaga Audubon Society team up to help get you started with a hobby that promises a lifetime of joy. This first program focuses on species ID tips and tricks, binocular selection, and bird feeding essentials. There will be a corresponding field trip on Saturday the 30th. \$10 for members; \$15 for nonmembers. Lecture & Field Trip Package: \$20 members; \$30 nonmembers.

30 Bird Field Trip: Baltimore Woods and other Local Hot Spots

8-11am

Here's a chance to put into practice the basic birding skills learned from the workshop on the 27th. We will visit some key birding hotspots close to Marcellus. Meet our group of skilled birders at Baltimore Woods. \$15 members; \$20 nonmembers. Lecture & Field Trip Package: \$20 members; \$30 nonmembers.

30 Habitat Gardening Series with Janet Allen: Habitat Gardening for Life

2-3:30pm

See sidebar on this page for information

Please register for programs.

Baltimore Woods

(315) 673-1350

info@baltimorewoods.org

May

Calendar of Events

1, 7, 8, 14, and 15 Weekend Wildflower Walks 2-3pm

Baltimore Woods' premier woodland wildflower garden is a local treasure. Join caretaker Audrey Loewer for a pleasant walk through one of the wonders of spring. Each week new species will bloom, and Audrey will reveal their past and present medicinal and culinary uses. Handicap accessible; please call ahead if you need assistance. Donations appreciated.

4 **Birding Series:** **Identifying & Understanding Raptors** 7-8:30pm

Take a closer look at raptors, including species ID, behavior, and migration patterns. Onondaga Audubon's Gerry Smith will share his wealth of knowledge and experiences monitoring raptors at Derby Hill. Join him for the Derby Hill Field Trip on May 7th. \$10 for members; \$15 for nonmembers. Lecture & Field Trip Package: \$20 members; \$30 nonmembers.

5 **Star Party:** **Eta Aquarid Meteor Shower** 8:30-10:30

The Eta Aquarid meteor shower, resulting from dust left over from Halley's Comet, should be a treat. Saturn and the spring Milky Way will not disappoint either! Bring a lawn chair or blanket to lie back and watch for meteors. \$5 for members; \$15/family; \$8 for nonmembers, \$25/family. **Back-up date: May 6.**

7 **Bird Field Trip: Derby Hill Raptors** 8:30am-1pm

This exposed hilltop lies in the path of a major raptor migration route—on a good day you can see hundreds of these magnificent birds. Gerry Smith will be on hand to offer ID tips and provide insight into the ongoing raptor monitoring project. Meet at Baltimore Woods at 7am to carpool, or at Derby Hill at 8am. \$15 members; \$20 nonmembers. Lecture & Field Trip Package: \$20 members; \$30 nonmembers.

7 **Habitat Gardening Series with Janet Allen: Gardening for Monarchs and Other Butterflies** 2-3:30pm *See April sidebar for information.*

8 **Mother's Day Garden Tour and Art Exhibit at Sycamore Hill Gardens** 11am-4pm

Invest in family time, bring mom out to enjoy over 30 acres of landscaped gardens and ponds with over 500,000 flowering bulbs, and 500 flowering trees and shrubs. Enjoy the art show and sale, filled with unique works by local artists. Proceeds benefit Baltimore Woods. See article on the insert page for more information. Advance sale tickets \$5 by May 1st; \$10 at gate.

10 **Keep it Natural: Birds and Beavers** 10:30-11:30am

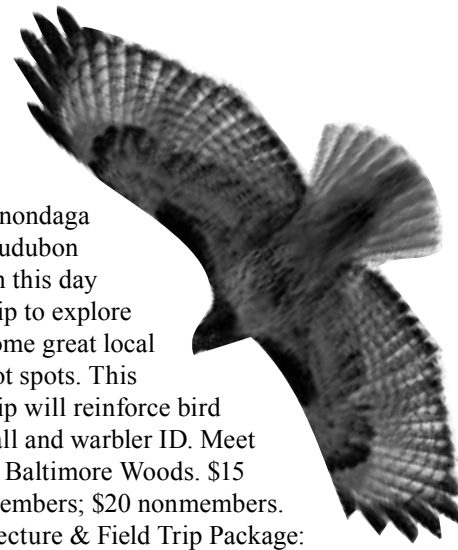
Join a naturalist on a favorite spring outing along the Griffith's Trail in search of migrant birds and resident beavers. The altered landscape of the flats should bring some interesting finds! \$5 for members; \$8 for nonmembers.

11 **Birding Series: Kick It Up a Notch: Calls, Behavior, Warblers** 7-8:30pm

This last program in our series introduces you to more advanced topics, including identifying bird calls, using behavior as an ID tool, and the excitingly daunting world of warblers. Follow up field trip on May 14. \$10 for members; \$15 for nonmembers. Lecture & Field Trip Package: \$20 members; \$30 nonmembers.

13, 14 **Native Plant and Herb Sale** **Members-Only** Friday, May 13th, 4-7pm **Public Sale** Saturday, May 14, 10am-3pm *Complete information on back cover.*

14 **Birding Field Trip: Local Hot Spots II** 8-11am CNY is blessed with excellent birding opportunities. Join Baltimore Woods and



Onondaga Audubon on this day trip to explore some great local hot spots. This trip will reinforce bird call and warbler ID. Meet at Baltimore Woods. \$15 members; \$20 nonmembers. Lecture & Field Trip Package: \$20 members; \$30 nonmembers.

14 **Habitat Gardening Series with Janet Allen: Our Future Flies on the Wings of Pollinators** 2-3:30pm *See April sidebar for information.*

18 **Birding Series: Kick It Up a Notch: Calls, Behavior, Warblers** 7-8:30pm

This last program in our birding series will introduce you to more advanced topics, including identifying bird calls, using behavior as an ID tool, and the excitingly daunting world of warblers. The follow up field trip will give us a chance to spot some warblers during peak migration. \$10 for members; \$15 for nonmembers. Lecture & Field Trip Package: \$20 members; \$30 nonmembers.

21 **Habitat Gardening Series with Janet Allen: Creating a Bird Friendly Yard** 2-3:30pm *See April sidebar for information.*

28 **Habitat Gardening Series with Janet Allen: "Green" Your Yard** 2-3:30pm *See April sidebar for information.*

Baltimore Woods offers programs for children ages 3-5 (Nature's Little Explorers), and for Home Schoolers. Call to request a brochure, or visit www.baltimorewoods.org for prices, and complete descriptions.

Nature's Little Explorers Programs

March 21st Maple Magic
April 25th Sensing Nature
May 16th Attracting Woodland Fairies
June 27th Frog Catching

Home School Expeditions

March 21st From Tree to Table k-6
April 25th Traveling Water Drop 3-6
May 16th Photosynthesis Phun 1-3
June 27th Stream Exploration k-6



Join today!

Share your love of nature

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available at

Baltimore Woods Nature Center

Call (315)673-1350

to sign your friends up!

Baltimore Woods Nature Center offers the best ...

- nature observation and enjoyment
- flower, herb and wildflower gardens
- adventure nature day camps
- 6+ miles of hiking trails
- public programs year-round for seniors, adults, families and children
- art gallery with Members-Only exhibit
- bird-watching station
- Discovery Library for nature study
- educational exhibits
- volunteer opportunities in many areas

Annual Membership Level

- \$15 Senior/Student
- \$25 Individual
- \$40 Family
- \$75 Sustaining
- \$100 Patron
- \$250 Benefactor
- \$500 Philanthropist
- \$1000 Life
- Donation Amount
(in addition to membership)

Name

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Nature in the City Program Cultivates Wonder

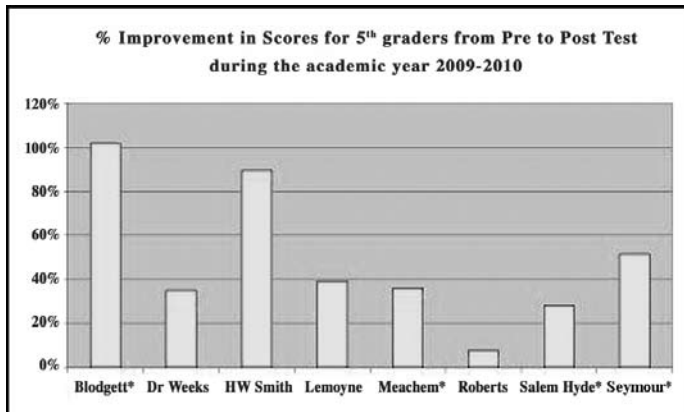
Baltimore Woods Nature Center's *Nature in the City* program ignites an interest in science in thousands of Syracuse students. Now in its seventh year, the award-winning program delivers natural science education programs to students in grades K-6 in eleven Syracuse elementary schools. *Nature in the City* meets New York State science curriculum standards.

Recent measurement of outcomes from a fifth grade energy program taken by pre- and post test scores indicate an average 50 percent improvement in fifth graders' knowledge and understanding of energy following *Nature in the City* instruction.

Demonstrating deliverable results, Baltimore Woods works in partnership with the Syracuse City School District and the corporate community. In the 2010-2011 school year, financial support to *Nature in the City* has been awarded by the Syracuse City School District, Time Warner, Lockheed Martin MS2, Lockheed Martin Employee Federated Fund, Dominion, SRC Inc, National Grid, AXA, Byrne Dairy, Key Bank, Anaren Microwave, Gear Motions Foundation, CNY Air and Waste Management Association, and Onondaga County's Save the Rain green infrastructure project.

In addition, corporate sponsors' employees volunteer their time to the program.

Programs are held using walking field trips to parks and neighborhood green spaces as well as the classroom. This helps insure that students' earliest learning experiences in the sciences are relevant, meaningful and fun.



Percent improvement in scores for 5th graders in the NITC energy program, academic year 2009-2010.

Thanks to the Syracuse City School District and our corporate sponsors, Baltimore Woods is able to provide a high quality natural science education program.



Save the Rain



CNY Air and Waste Management Association



TURTLE'S ~~KID'S~~ PAGE

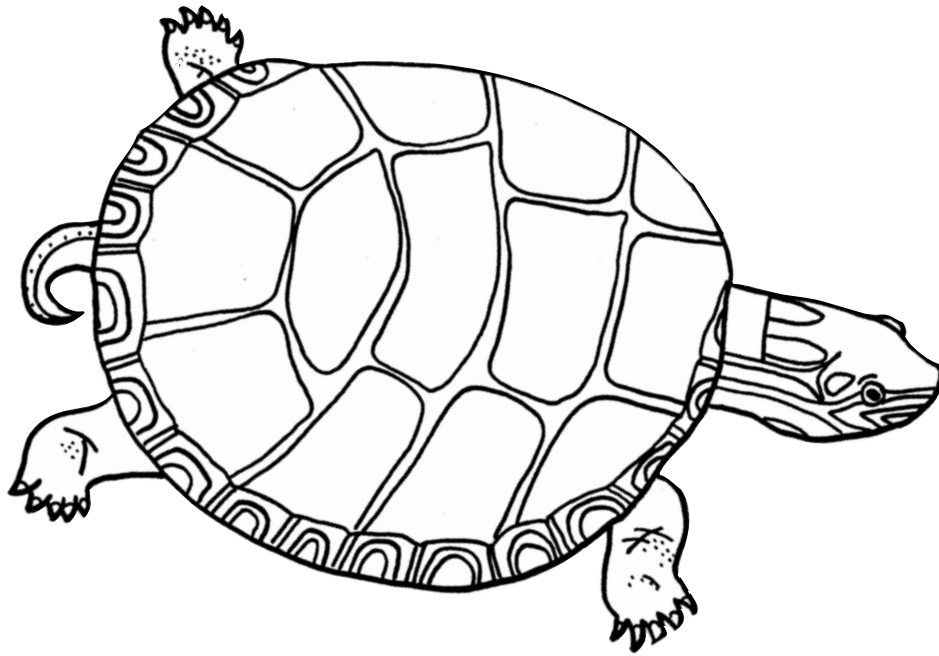
Name that Box Turtle

This past fall Baltimore Woods added members to our team. We received four eastern box turtles that had been rescued by the DEC. These turtles will join Miss Hiss in the Kindergarten *Nature in the City* programs. The two female adult box turtles are called Lucy and Morla, and the juvenile male is called Geronimo. The adult male turtle needs a name!



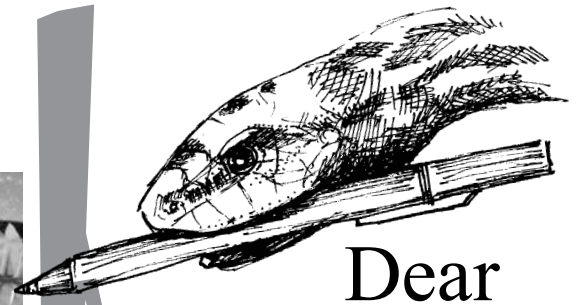
Please help us find a name for him. He is pictured at right. There are color photos of him and all the turtles on the Baltimore Woods *Facebook* page. Please email your name ideas to info@baltimorewoods.org, or mail it in. We'll announce the name soon. Thanks for your help!

Color the Painted Turtle



"Do you know... that Margaret Middleton, the artist that created this painted turtle image is now an Exhibit Designer working for the Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose. She recently completed work on an exhibit for Bill Nye's Climate Lab at the Chabot Space and Science Center. She is pictured here at the exhibit's gala opening in November of 2010 with none other than Bill Nye the Science Guy.

Margaret grew up in Skaneateles and is a Baltimore Woods Nature Camp alumni. When she was only 12, Baltimore Woods commissioned her to create the coloring book that the turtle image comes from. So when you color that turtle, think about your dreams for yourself when you grow up and reach for the stars! *Way to go Margaret!*"



Dear Miss Hiss

Dear wonderful friendsss,

I have news! There are four new residents here at The Woods and let me tell you they are strange. First of all they have weird dome shaped shells and mysterious orange eyes. They are called eastern box turtles and are unlike any turtle I have ever seen. This particular species of turtle is recognized for their hinged shells, which allows them to retract completely into their bony armor and clamp it shut — don't ever try poking them or you may lose a finger! (Not really...)

Anyway, I have to say that they are terrible conversational companions, always hiding under the mulch and sleeping. And the food they eat...oh let's not even go there, it is just terrible and smells so bad I have to hide my nose in the sand. And unlike my beautiful, silky, shiny, glossy, smooth, velvety... (I could keep going all day) scales, turtles don't shed all at once so they always look in dire need of lotion. Though we are both reptiles, I am definitely the better looking species!

Lucy and Morla are the two girls. The oldest boy doesn't have a name yet. The last member of this bale (that's what a group of turtles is called, like a pack of rats...yummy) is named Geronimo. He's the youngest of them all and is quite fun to watch. I'll have to get used to these new friends for they have quite a long life span in captivity...30 to 40 years!

This is the update on the new box turtles of The Woods. They are quiet and move slowly, but are rather interesting. They are not on display right now, but you can see photos of them all on the Baltimore Woods *Facebook* page.

See you ssssssoon,

Love,

Miss Hiss

Wish List



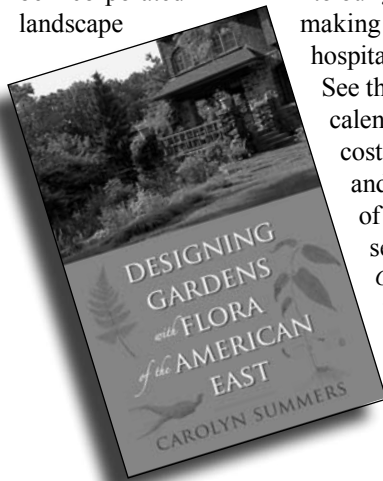
Santa Suit

Full-size
Kitchen Refrigerator

Reception volunteers needed
Monday mornings and
afternoons;
Friday afternoons.

Gardening for Wildlife Workshop

We're pleased to join the Wild Ones Habitat Gardening Group in CNY to co-sponsor Carolyn Summers, author of *Designing Gardens with Flora of the American East*, as our presenter on Saturday, April 2nd at Baltimore Woods. It makes sense to plan our gardens to be more than just decorative, but also function as habitat for butterflies, birds and mammals. We're delighted that Summers will share her knowledge of indigenous plants and how they can be incorporated into our gardens and making them more hospitable to wildlife.



See the April calendar page for costs and times, and descriptions of the two sessions. *Continuing education credits available.*
Registration now open.

Plant Sale at The Woods

Get the variety and quality of herbs, hanging baskets and perennial plants for your garden at Baltimore Woods Plant Sale. Mark your calendars for **Friday, May 13th, 4-7pm** when the sale is open for Baltimore Woods *members-only*. Bring your friends and neighbors on **Saturday, May 14th, 10am-3pm** to get the best quality plants and the expert gardening advice you have come to expect from Baltimore Woods. The Plant Sale Committee has carefully selected more native plants this year to encourage native pollinators to visit your garden. Rain or shine come to the John A Weeks Interpretive Center and support this important educational and fundraising event.

**No admission fee
Rain or shine
Free parking**






**Baltimore Woods
Nature Center**
Nature in your hands

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March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Warm days and cold nights create pressure fluctuations in all parts of maple trees, causing sap to flow from wounds.						
		1	2	3	4 Feeder Watch 10am-4pm	5 Feeder Watch 10am-4pm Fly Tie 11am-noon
	7	8 Keep It Natural 10:30-11:30am	9	10	11 Feeder Watch 10am-4pm	12 Feeder Watch 10am-4pm
Barred owls are laying eggs in cavities in old deciduous trees.						
	14	15	16 Volunteer Lunch Noon	17	18 Feeder Watch 10am-4pm	19 Feeder Watch 10am-4pm Maples & Music 1-4pm Worm Moon
Skunk cabbage is flowering in swamps. Temperatures inside the spathe of skunk cabbage can be 21 degrees higher than outside temperatures.						
	21 Nature's Little Explorers 10-11am Home School Expeditions 1-3pm	22 Amphibian Alert!	23	24 	25 Feeder Watch 10am-4pm Star Party 7-9pm	26 Feeder Watch 10am-4pm Artist Reception 2-4pm Earth Hour 8:30-9:30pm
Songbirds save their least favorite foods for last: look for evening grosbeaks and robins eating sumac berries						
	28	29	30	31 		
Hungry woodchucks are out feasting on new grass						

April

3	4	5 Amphibian Alert!	6	7	8 Feeder Watch 10am-4pm	9 Feeder Watch 10am-4pm Fly Tie 11am-noon
Painted turtles come out of hibernation.						
10	11	12 Keep It Natural 10:30-11:30am	13	14	15	16 Earth Day Event 10am-1pm Wildflower Walk 2-3pm
Hummingbirds are en-route and should arrive here by early May.						
17 Wildflower Walk 2-3pm Pink Moon	18	19	20 Adventure Day Camp 9am-4pm	21	22 Star Party 8:30-10:30pm	23 Natural Eggs-travaganza 10:30-noon Wildflower Walk 2-3pm
Spring peepers migrate to their breeding grounds on rainy nights above 41 degrees.						
24 Wildflower Walk 2-3pm	25 Nature's Little Explorers 10-11am Home School Expeditions 1-3pm	26	27 Birding Series 7-8:30pm	28	29	30 Bird Field Trip 8-11am Habitat Gardening 2-3:30pm Wildflower Walk 2-3pm
Downy woodpeckers have 8 vocalizations and 8 kinds of drumming.						

May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Queen bumblebees coming out of hibernation are among the first pollinators of woodland wildflowers.						
1 Wildflower Walk 2-3pm	2	3	4 Birding Series 7-8:30pm	5 Star Party 8:30-10:30	6	Birding Field Trip 8:30am-1pm Wildflower Walk 2-3pm Habitat Gardening 2-3:30pm
7 May Day is midway between the Spring Equinox and the Summer Solstice.	8	9 Keep it Natural 10:30-11:30am	10 Birding Series 7-8:30pm	11 Hike at Baltimore Woods and report if the trilliums are in bloom.	12 Plant Sale <i>Members-Only</i> 4-7pm	13 Birding Field Trip 8-11am Plant Sale 10am-3pm Wildflower Walk 2-3pm Habitat Gardening 2-3:30pm
14 Mother's Day Garden Tour 11am-4pm Wildflower Walk 2-3pm	15 Nature's Little Explorers 10-11am Home School Expeditions 1-3pm	16 Flower Moon 	17 Birding Series 7-8:30pm	18	19	20 Habitat Gardening 2-3:30pm
21 Wildflower Walk 2-3pm	22	23	24	25	26	27 Habitat Gardening 2-3:30pm
28 Beavers eat bark all winter, now they shift their diet to herbaceous plants.	29	30				



SAVE THE DATE

Mother's Day Tour at
Sycamore Hill Gardens

Sunday, May 8th
11am-4pm

Ticket price by
May 1st: \$5

At the gate: \$10

Mother's Day Garden Tour and Art Exhibit

Our friends at Sycamore Hill Gardens, Marcellus, will again open their magnificent private gardens to the public. Gather up the family, and join us Sunday, May 8th, for a wonderful Mother's Day event.

Admire the massive, stately bicentennial sycamore tree that serves as the centerpiece at the entrance at **2130 Old Seneca Turnpike in Marcellus**. Stroll over 30 acres of themed gardens with over 500 varieties of trees, more than 500,000 flowering bulbs, and over five acres of ponds.

Linger with your children along the banks of the ponds to feed the colorful Japanese Koi. Ring bells and gongs in the bell garden and play in the maze. Enjoy many unique works on display for sale from local artists and find a special gift for a summer wedding!

Take the color and joy of springtime home with you — hanging baskets will be available for purchase.

Bring your paints, bring your camera, bring your picnic basket—it's all encouraged! Spend as long as you wish wandering the paths and enjoying the gardens.

Tickets for the garden tour are \$5 in advance, \$10 at the gate. **The advance ticket price ends on May 1st at 5pm, so don't delay!** Children under 8 get in free. The event is held rain or shine, and proceeds benefit Baltimore Woods Nature Center.

Tickets can be purchased in Marcellus at Baltimore Woods, Key Bank, and the Chocolate Pizza Company, (also at their new Manlius location); in Skaneateles at Creekside Books and Coffee, and in Auburn at the Auburn Public Theater.

See you in the garden!

