

Leave it to Beaver

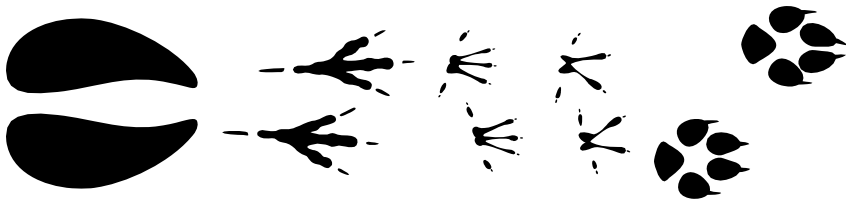
Can you believe that beavers are the second largest rodents in the entire world? These nocturnal, semi-aquatic critters are known for their amazing ability to construct dams and lodges and alter the environment. Unfortunately, their population has been declining since 1988 due to extensive hunting for their fur. Join a Naturalist and learn why this keystone species, who lives in your backyard, is such a vital part of our ecosystem.

Off the Coast

The sea turtle is an amazing animal! They can migrate for thousands of miles and have a positive impact on our environment. Come learn the adaptations of this creature and why they need your help!

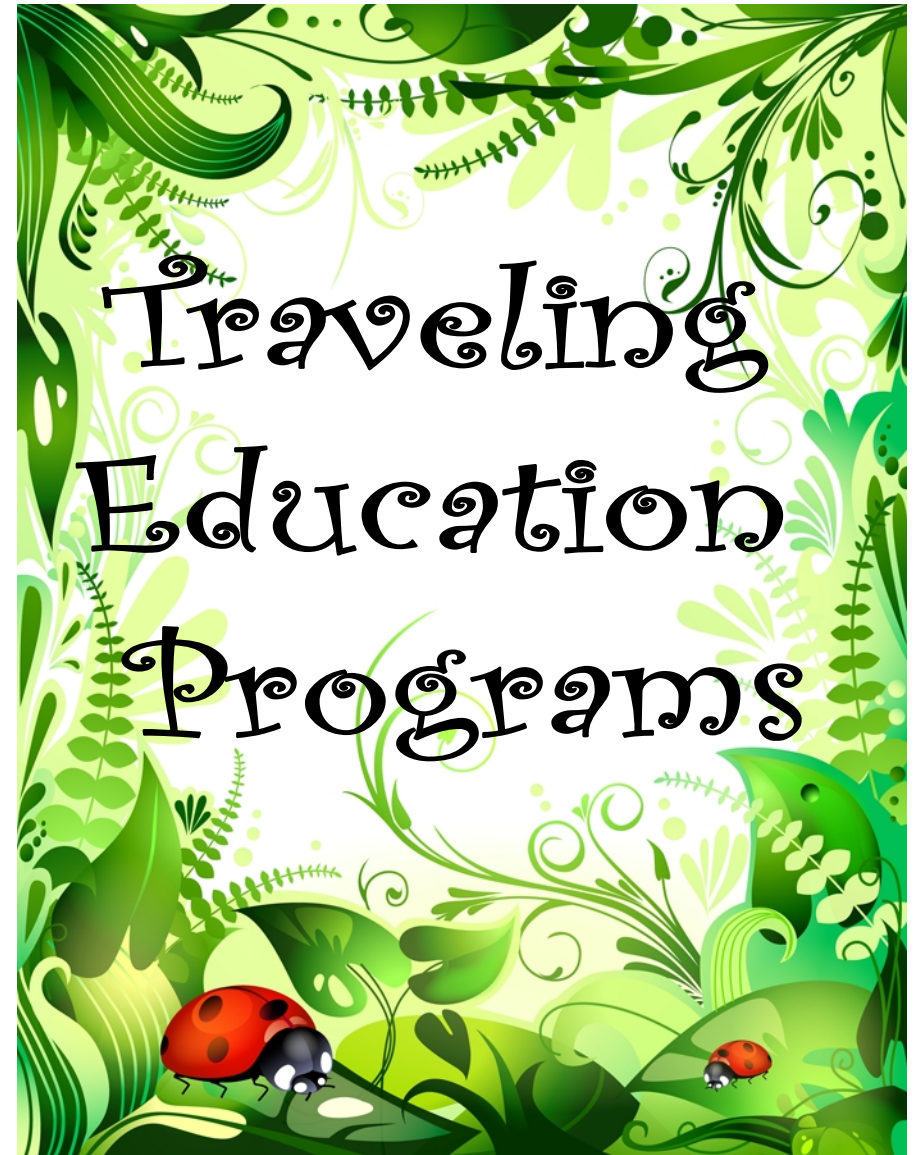
Planning a Native Butterfly Garden

Do you love butterflies? Do you like growing beautiful blooming plants in your garden? This PowerPoint-based lecture and discussion will illustrate which native plants attract which native butterflies and moths. Handouts will include which native lepidoptera eat which plants, sources of native plants, and much more.



For more information visit www.somersetcountyparks.org or contact Kurt Bender at 908 766-2489 ext. 332 or via email at kbender@scparcs.org.

Somerset County Park Commission welcomes everyone to participate in its programs and facilities regardless of race, color, gender, disability, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or religious or political affiliation. If you have individualized needs due to a disability, please call 908 526-5650 and we will be happy to arrange reasonable accommodations. Three-weeks notice is required to ensure that appropriate accommodations can be provided.



Lord Stirling Park
Environmental Education Center
190 Lord Stirling Road, Basking Ridge, NJ 07920
Phone 908 766-2489 Fax 908 766-2687
Web www.somersetcountyparks.org



The following is a sampling of Naturalist-presented, PowerPoint-based lecture and discussion presentations that are appropriate for a variety of audiences. Choose one of our topics or suggest one of your own.

Each presentation can be tailored to your group's specific needs, interests, and time frame. We can provide our own projection screen, projector, and laptop for the presentation; you provide the audience.

Backyard Bears

Bear sightings are increasing throughout the state of New Jersey. Do you know what to do if you see a bear? This PowerPoint-based lecture and discussion will help you become educated in bear 'etiquette.' You will learn 'the bear necessities' and walk away with a better understanding of bears.

Backyard Birds

Ever wonder about the birds in your backyard? This PowerPoint-based lecture and discussion will help you get acquainted with many of New Jersey's common backyard birds. Join a Naturalist and spend some time learning the basics of backyard bird watching. You will learn basic identification skills, what to feed backyard birds, as well as when and where to place feeders in your yard.

Backyard Invaders

We are being invaded! The world is becoming one, not only in commerce, but ecologically as well. More animals and plants arrive on our shores and have free range because their natural predators are not here. Come learn about a few and what impact they are having on our natives.

The Bees' Knees

This little animal is one of nature's most important role players. Pollination is important for all living things, and bees have made an art of it. Without them, the species we know as *Homo sapiens* is in big trouble. Join us as we discuss all things that are bee and not to be.

Coyote Cries

Perhaps you have heard a coyote howling at night or read about coyotes in the area. This PowerPoint-based lecture and discussion will help you sort the myths from the facts. Coyote education is important for anyone living in New Jersey.

Deer Wrangling!

They are everywhere! Bambi or "hoofed rats"? Why so many? How can I keep them out of my garden? If I hit one, who do I call? Let's sort out the brouhaha as well as learn deer biology. Participants will get to handle deer skulls, bones, antlers, and more.

Holy White Nose, Bat Girl!

A virulent and deadly pathogen called White-Nose Syndrome (WNS) has killed more than one million bats in the Northeast in the past five years. This PowerPoint-based lecture and discussion will educate you on the status of the NJ Bats as well as create an understanding of what causes WNS.

Vital Vernals

New Jersey has a special ecosystem that supports hundreds of species, yet can only be seen during spring. Vernal pools are unique habitats that only exist when water is prevalent. Come learn about the animals that use and depend upon a habitat that can disappear at any moment.