



Friends of Salt Springs Park

June 2011

www.friendsofsaltspringspark.org

570-967-7275

Thank You

Dear Friends,

Thank you for your continuing support of the Friends of Salt Springs Park by renewing your annual membership. We now offer our Friends a membership discount in the Gift Shop in the Wheaton House: T-shirts, \$5 off; tote bags, \$2.50 off, and books, \$1 off. Some program fees also reflect a membership discount.

Horsetail *Equisetum arvense*

Horsetail is one of the rarely recognized herbs that grow naturally throughout the United States. As we learned from herbalist Vesta Adriance last Sunday at Salt Springs, it was commonly used by our ancestors. Also called "scouring rush," they used it to scrub pots and pans and polish wooden tools and pewter.



The horsetail plant is a descendant of a huge, tree-like plant that lived during the Paleozoic era about 400 million years ago. A relative of the fern, this perennial plant bears hollow shoots and stems that start out looking similar to asparagus plants. Silica crystals later form on the branches and stems, which turns the foliage abrasive and the branches bristly.

E3: Earth, Ecology, and the Environment

E3 is an environmental education program the Friends offer to all 4th grade classes in Susquehanna County. Begun in 2003, the program consists of two classroom sessions and one all-day field trip to Salt Springs in which children experience hands-on the principles they learned. On Friday, June 3, Choconut fourth-graders spent the day at Salt Springs. Thanks for the pictures, George Schreck!

Top to bottom, left to right: Jay Harter teaching how to identify stream life; Charlotte Remakus reinforcing principles of recycling; and the E3 instructors, all of whom have been with us for 5 years, and some since day 1: Lillian Theophanis, Charlotte Remakus, Nancy Wottrich, Matt Purdy, and Jay Harter.



Mark Your Calendars

FULL MOON NIGHT HIKE. Wednesday, June 15, 8:30 pm. Enjoy a night walk lit by the moon, study lightning bugs, listen for nocturnal animals, and learn about night senses. **No fee.**

POLLINATOR GARDENS AND BEE-KEEPING FOR BEGINNERS. Saturday, June 18, 2-6 pm. Pollinators are amazing and important. From 2 to 4 pm, learn about various local pollinators and what native species you can plant to attract them. From 4 to 6 pm, we'll introduce you to Beekeeping and the symbiotic relationship between honeybees and many flowering plants. **No fee.**

INTRODUCTION TO FLY FISHING Sundays, 2-4 pm

This series is for those who have always wanted to try but didn't know how to get started. Instructor Ron Kozlowski has many years of experience and owns Ron's Flies in Nicholson. Program fee: \$15 per session.

June 19—Reading the Water and Hatches. Knowing what is hatching, when it hatches, and where the fish are is fundamental to success. We'll explore the critters that dwell in Fall Brook and Silver Creek.

June 26—Introduction to Fly Tying. Learn the basics of tying trout flies through a demonstration to create Woolly Buggers.

GREEN GARDENING—SOIL ECOLOGY, ORGANIC PEST & WEED CONTROL, LATE CROPS. Friday, July 1, 6-9 pm. The wisdom of self-sustaining agriculture is now more important than ever. This session focuses on mid-season planting for late crops, cold tolerant vegetables, organic pest and weed control, and cover cropping. **No fee.**



ALL AMERICAN MUSIC. Sunday, July 3, 7 pm. The Endless Mountains Trio, Corky Staats, Paul Fazio, and Carl Hagstrom, will join us this year to celebrate our nation's birth with their unique style of folk, blues, and bluegrass and some traditional songs. Bring chairs or blankets to sit on and marshmallows to toast after the program. Rain or shine. At the Pavilion. **No fee, but we pass the hat.**

SUMMER BIRDING HIKE. Saturday, July 9, 7:30-10 am. Join local birder Evan Mann on a morning hike investigating which birds are nesting and raising their young in Salt Springs. **Fee: Members, free; Non, \$5.**