



Friends of Salt Springs Park March 2020

www.friendsofsaltspringspark.org

570-967-7275



Impact of Covid-19

Our individual situations, from not being allowed to work and make a living or to be near loved ones, to being ill with a relatively unknown virus, to being relatively unaffected but in isolation, are varied, but we share the gamut of emotions these times are evoking. We want to express our concern and support for everyone, our members and non-members alike, who are affected by the coronavirus pandemic.

Many people are flocking to their local, state, and federal public lands for a break from their four walls and to get some fresh air and exercise. Remember, however, that that "fresh air" is fresher, and healthier, for you, and everyone else, the further you keep from everyone else. At this time, a healthy distance is considered to be 6 feet. So, when you come to Salt Springs (or anywhere else outside your home), please keep at least 6 feet away from all whom you may encounter.

Read on for other precautions in effect at Salt Springs.

Park Facilities Closed and Programs Canceled

As most of you may already know, or suspect, much of Salt Springs Park is closed at this time, and all programs and events have been canceled through April 30th. This is the directive, from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources:

DCNR, State Parks, and Forests Facility Closures

State Park and Forest Facilities Closed

The public can access trails, lakes, roads, and parking for passive and dispersed recreation, such as hiking; however, all facilities at state parks and forests in Pennsylvania will be closed until April 30, 2020, to help slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus.

Closed facilities include:

- Park and forest offices and visitor centers
- Restrooms
- Campgrounds, cabins, and all forms of overnight accommodations, including the Nature Inn
- Public programs, events, and trainings are canceled

We encourage practicing social distancing while enjoying open spaces avoiding groups and crowds, and visitors should be respectful of our natural places and use the bathroom before they leave home.

We will be providing full refunds on all reservable facilities, such as campsites, cabins, cottages, pavilions, lodges, and the Nature Inn.

State park visitors with reservations will be contacted regarding refund procedures.

In sum, through April 30th, the trails and parking lots are open, but the restrooms, Wheaton House, and cottages are closed, and camping, programs and events are suspended.

If you come for a walk or hike, please respect the "social distancing" guidelines. Consider also bringing a bag or two with you and pick up any litter you might see. Our April clean-up days have been canceled, but we still need, and plan, to clear away the winter litter and debris.

Archery for Beginners: A Series

Our archery tutorials have been very popular, so we will offer one each month this year from May through September: 5/16, 6/20, 7/11, 8/8, and 9/26. Our beginner's program is based on the National Archery in Schools Program and is taught by a NASP-certified instructor, Diane Hawley-Wurth.

You can also schedule a separate class for your group. Call or email (friends@salt-springspark.org) to schedule a date. We provide all equipment.



Mark Your Calendar! Full Details on Our Website

There is a chance, of course, that some or all of the following will be canceled too, but as of now—we hope to see you at programs again soon!



First Day Hike—Go Wild for Wildflowers. Friday, May 1, 6:30 p.m. Come celebrate spring in the park and enjoy a family-friendly activity. Let's see how many wildflowers we can identify. \$5; members, free.

Full Moon Hike. Wednesday, May 6, 7:30 p.m. Explore the park by the light of the moon. Bring a flashlight and a snack to share around a campfire afterwards. \$5; \$15/family; members, free.

Archery for Beginners. Saturday, May 16, 10 a.m. We provide a beginner's program based on the National Archery in Schools Program, which makes it easy for anyone to learn. \$5; \$15/family.

Spring Bird Walk. Saturday, May 23, 7:30 a.m. Avid birder **Evan Mann** will lead us through a variety of habitats in search of as many species as we can identify by sight or sound, which we expect to be at least 60. We'll begin in the Wheaton House parking lot and conclude late morning. Good walking shoes and binoculars are recommended. **Free-will donation.**



Louisiana waterthrush; by Evan Mann.

First Day Hike. Monday, June 1, 6:30 p.m. Join us to get outdoors, enjoy nature, and make new friends while getting some exercise. Each month our First Day Hikes will focus on a different theme. \$5; members, free.



Along the Border Trail.

Full Moon Hike. Friday, June 5, 8:30 p.m. Explore the park by the light of the moon. Bring a flashlight and a snack to share around a campfire afterwards. \$5; \$15/family; members, free.

Archery for Beginners. Saturday, June 20, 10 a.m. We provide a beginner's program based on the National Archery in Schools Program, which makes it easy for anyone to learn. \$5; \$15/family.