

PLEASE CHECK WITH SITE BEFORE BRINGING PETS TO THESE PUBLIC PROGRAMS

exhibits . . .

Ongoing, during regular museum hours

“Potty Talk”

Peter Wentz Farmstead • 610-584-5104

People have always needed to use the potty, but what did that mean in the past? This exhibit offers an interesting, and often humorous, look at how 18th-century people lived with their pre-plumbing potties...on view in our modern restrooms!

All ages; suggested donation \$2 per person.

Through Sunday, November 2nd during regular museum hours

“To the Manor Worn: Clothing the Eighteenth-Century Household”

Pottsgrove Manor • 610-326-4014

To modern sensibilities, the clothing people wore in the past can seem strange, uncomfortable, or even unhealthy. This exhibit will give visitors a better understanding of clothing and fashion in colonial America, through displays of reproduction clothing as well as a number of original pieces. Not only will the exhibit showcase mid-eighteenth century fashion, it will also connect what people wore to a broader historical context. How were clothes made, and who made them? What materials were used, and where did they come from? Who wore what, and why?

All ages; suggested donation \$2 per person.

Through January 10, 2015 during regular museum hours

“Finishing the Look – Fashion Accessories of the Victorian and Edwardian Era”

Pennypacker Mills • 610-287-9349

See what fashionistas of the 1900s used to accessorize their outfits. Hats, gloves, purses, shoes and other accessories complete the proper attire for a Victorian woman.

All ages; suggested donation \$2 per person.

From September 13th to 21st during regular museum hours

“Airing the Quilts”

Peter Wentz Farmstead • 610-584-5104

Quilts from the collection that date from the late 18th through early 20th centuries will be out of storage and on exhibit throughout the historic Wentz house.

All ages; suggested donation \$2 per person.

programs . . .

july

Now thru August 23rd: Tuesdays 12:00 to 1:30 pm, Thursdays 5:30 to 7:00 pm, and every other Saturday 1:00 to 2:30 pm

Canoe with Perks

The John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove • 610-666-5593

Come and enjoy a fun and educational canoe trip down the

Perkiomen Creek! You will receive instruction on basic canoe skills and then set off with one of our naturalists as they provide a guided tour. Canoes, paddles, and life vests are provided. For more information, or to register for a canoe trip, please contact the education department at JJAC_education@audubon.org or 610-666-5593 ext 109.

Ages: 3 & up with an adult; fee \$15 per person; pre-registration required.

Saturday, July 5th at 9:00 am

Birds for Kids

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

This bird walk is geared for kids. We will try to encounter (but not disturb) birds on the nest or with young. Bring binoculars if you have them.

Ages: 5 and up with an adult; free; pre-registration required; meet in parking lot #2.

Sunday, July 6th at 8:00 am

Morning Bird Walk

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Come out and enjoy an early morning bird walk with local birder Barbara Hiebsch. Our breeding birds are on the nest. We should be able to see flycatchers, vireos, and other songbirds. Bring binoculars if you have them.

Ages: adults and children (ages 10 and up); free; pre-registration required; meet in parking lot #2.

Sunday, July 6th at 2:00 pm

Reading of the Declaration

Peter Wentz Farmstead • 610-584-5104

Listen to a reading of the Declaration of Independence, much as it was done on this date in 1776. Come huzzah with your fellow Americans!

All ages; suggested donation \$2 per person.

Monday to Friday, July 7th to 11th from 9:30 am to 1:30 pm

Mitte Camp

Peter Wentz Farmstead • 610-584-5104

Students entering 1st through 3rd grade in fall 2014 will learn about life during the 1700s at this hands-on camp.

Fee \$100 (Peter Wentz Farmstead Society member discount rate: \$75); pre-registration required.

Friday, July 11th at 10:00 am

Meet Montgomery

Upper Schuylkill Valley Park • 610-948-5170

Come meet Montgomery the Park's resident Bald Eagle. Visitors will learn about an eagle's diet, habitat and more. There will be a story read aloud and a craft to make and take home.

Ages: 3-7; suggested donation \$4 per person; pre-registration is required; event will be held weather permitting as all activities will be outdoors.

Saturday, July 12th from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
**LAERENSWAERT "WORTH LEARNING" SERIES:
Garden Tours**

Peter Wentz Farmstead • 610-584-5104

Discover the many heritage plants grown in the kitchen garden with the "Wentz Weeders," the volunteers that plant, maintain and harvest it all year.

All ages: suggested donation \$2 per person.

Sunday, July 13th at 2:00 pm

Wings and Things

Lorimer Park • 215-947-3477

Come and explore the fascinating world of insects. We'll provide bug boxes with magnifying lenses and field guides. Learn the names and special adaptations of these amazing creatures. If you have your own insect net and bug jar, please bring them along.

Ages: adults with or without children (ages 3 and up); free; pre-registration required; meet by the ranger hut.

Sunday, July 13th from 4:00 to 7:00 pm

Victorian Tea – Old Railroad Days

Pennypacker Mills • 610-287-9349

Join us for the quintessential Victorian Tea where musician Matthew Dodd will take us on a journey through time, featuring railroad songs and stories. Food courtesy of the Culinary Arts Institute of Montgomery County Community College.

Ages: Adults & Children 12 years and up; fee \$40 per person by pre-registration & pre-payment only; registration opens June 10th.

Monday, July 14th at 10:00 am

Little Ladybugs

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Take a closer look at Ladybug Beetles. Nearly everyone recognizes the classic red ladybug with black spots, but there is great variation in the size, number and pattern of spots. Some species are native while others are non-native. Their diet varies between species also. Younger participants can make a ladybug craft after the field activity.

Ages: adults with or without children (ages 3 and up); \$5 craft fee; pre-registration required; meet at the pavilions.

Saturday, July 19th and Sunday, July 20th from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

**Fashioning a New World: A Symposium on
Clothing & Textiles in Early America**

Pottsgrove Manor • 610-326-4014

Sign up for a program of engaging lectures from experts in the study of historical costume and textiles, including Linda Eaton of Winterthur Museum, Rebecca Fifield of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, independent researcher Lynn Edgar, journeyman tailor & Winterthur Museum fellow Neal Hurst, and journeyman boot & shoemaker Brett Walker of Colonial Williamsburg. Optional half-day sewing workshops will be offered on Sunday afternoon. Contact the site for further information and registration details. Symposium will be held at Montgomery County Community College, West Campus in Pottstown.

Ages: recommended for adults; fee \$75 per person (includes lunch; there are additional fees for Sunday workshops); spaces are limited; registration and payment required by July 11th.

Sunday, July 20th from 1:00 to 4:00 pm

**Early Native Americans along
the Schuylkill River**

Lock 60 at Schuylkill Canal Park • 610-917-8030

The SCA is pleased to have Matthew D. Harris, RPA, to present his findings of the early native people of the Schuylkill Valley, who were using the river resources and living on the land thousands of years before us. Matt is going to discuss the context of the land during this time, the Middle Woodland Period people and their forays and settlement in the Schuylkill Valley for seasonal fish migrations and regional trade in tool making resources evident from lithic materials, biface and ceramic types found in our region. Weather permitting, the indoor presentation will be followed by a moderately difficult 1.5 hour hike up the first ravine to the same vistas of the Schuylkill River Valley seen by these early native people.

Ages: 12 and up with an adult, \$10 donation; pre-registration required; meet at Locktender's House.

Monday to Friday, I: July 21st to 25th; or

II: July 28th to August 1st from 9:30 to 11:30 am

Wentz Wonder Kids Camp

Peter Wentz Farmstead • 610-584-5104

Kids ages 4-5 years old will enjoy a half-day camp with hands-on activities related to the historic Farmstead. Snacks provided.

Fee \$50 per child; pre-registration required.

Saturday, July 26th at 1:00 pm

Incredible Insects

Green Lane Park • 215-234-4528

Join us for an investigation of our 6-legged neighbors, the insects. Using nets and "bug boxes," we will collect insects to learn about their identities and their amazing adaptations for survival. Afterwards, we will turn them all free in their habitat.

Ages: 3 to adult; free; pre-registration required; meet at Fly-fishing Area on Church Road in Green Lane Park.

Sunday, July 27th at 1:00 pm

Knee Deep in the Creek

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Come out to explore the underwater world of Kepner Creek. We'll collect and classify aquatic insects and use seine nets to catch fish. Sometimes we get frogs and salamanders too. Wear sturdy shoes that you can get wet. We are going into the water. No rain boots please!

Ages: adults with or without children (ages 6 and up); free; pre-registration required; meet in parking lot #3 by the kiosk.

august

Saturday, August 2nd from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

In the Good Old Summertime

Pennypacker Mills • 610-287-9349

Bring the family for an afternoon of vintage music on the porch featuring Charlie Zahm and Tad Marks, lawn games, Victorian dress-up for photos, tours of the Children's Heritage Garden,

hands-on fun in the 1900s History Center, mansion tours, and a vintage car show with the Delaware Valley Classic MG Car Club. All ages; suggested donation \$2 per person.

Saturday, August 2nd at 1:00 pm

Milkweed – Monarchs and So Much More

Green Lane Park • 215-234-4528

Join us for a closer look at milkweed stands as a “micro-habitat.” In addition to providing food for Monarch butterfly caterpillars, milkweed hosts an entire insect community that relies on these plants for survival. After a brief indoor program, we will visit some milkweed patches to learn about this amazing ecosystem.

Ages: 5 to adult; free; pre-registration required; meet at the Deep Creek Pavilion.

Sunday, August 3rd at 9:00 am

Birds for Kids

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Join our second summer bird walk for kids. See birds that you probably won't find in your own backyard. Bring binoculars and learn how to use them properly.

Ages: 5 and up with an adult; free; pre-registration required; meet in parking lot #2.

Sundays, August 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th, & 31st from 1:00 to 4:00 pm

Kids' Textile Workshops

Pottsgrove Manor • 610-326-4014

Kids can learn historical crafts and take home their creations:

August 3—Learn to Knit (limited to 5);

August 10—Hand Quilting (limited to 6);

August 17—Bobbin Lace Snake Bookmark (limited to 6);

August 24—Tape Weaving (limited to 10);

August 31—Make a Leather Pouch (limited to 6)

Ages: 8-12; fee \$15 per child per workshop (includes materials), or sign up for all 5 for \$65; cardboard tape looms can be purchased at the tape weaving workshop for an additional \$15; class sizes are limited; registration and payment due 1 week prior to each workshop.

Sunday, August 3rd at 6:00 pm

Natural History Walk

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Join Ranger Mike on a nature walk. Learn some forest ecology and some interesting things about the animals in the park. Bring binoculars if you have them and wear supportive shoes. The walk will be about two miles.

Ages: adults with or without children (ages 7 and up); free; pre-registration required; meet in the office parking lot.

Saturday, August 9th from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

LAERENSWAERT “WORTH LEARNING” SERIES: House Cleaning

Peter Wentz Farmstead • 610-584-5104

Experience the laundering of clothes and other common cleaning tasks (The historic house will be closed for tours).

All ages; suggested donation \$2 per person.

Friday, August 15th at 10:00 am

Those Amazing Amphibians

Upper Schuylkill Valley Park • 610-948-5170

Come and learn interesting facts about frogs, toads and salamanders while meeting some of the Park's resident amphibians. We'll talk about their habitat, diet and the life cycle of these amazing creatures. A craft to make and take home will be included.

Ages: 3-7; suggested donation \$4 per person; pre-registration is required; event will be held weather permitting as all activities will be outdoors.

Saturday, August 16th at 9:00 am

Family Fishing Program

Green Lane Park • 215-234-4528

Join a Park Ranger as they teach the PA Fish & Boat Commission's Fishing Skills Class. You will learn the basics of aquatic ecology, fishing equipment and techniques. Then you'll take what you learned and try to catch some fish in Deep Creek Lake! Rods, tackle and bait are supplied for free during the program. No fishing license required.

All ages; free; all children MUST be accompanied by an adult; pre-registration required; meet at the Deep Creek Pavilion.

Sunday, August 17th at 2:00 pm

Dragons and Damsels

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

No, this is not story book time! Dragonflies and damselflies represent an ancient order of insects that have been on earth since before the dinosaurs. Dr. Tim Halverson, dragonfly expert, will teach about their life history, territorial behavior, and how to recognize individual species. We'll explore the old reservoir and the farm pond area (about a 1 mile hike) in search of our quarry. Bring water in a carrier. If you have an insect net and a large bug jar, bring them along.

Ages: adults with or without children (ages 8 and up); free; pre-registration required; meet in parking lot #3 near the kiosk.

Monday, August 18th at 10:00 am

Fins, Wings, and Other Creek Things

Lorimer Park • 215-947-3477

Explore Harper's Run and the Pennypack Creek for aquatic wildlife. In the past we've found insects, fish, and salamanders. Learn to evaluate water quality using a biotic index. Wear sturdy shoes that will get wet. If you have a fine mesh fish net, bring it along.

Ages: adults and children ages 6 and up; free; pre-registration required; meet in the parking lot on Moredon Rd.

Tuesday, August 19th through Friday, August 22nd
from 1:00 to 3:00 pm

History Adventures in the Summer!

Pennypacker Mills • 610-287-9349

Looking for an end of the summer fun week? Come to the Mills where every day we'll explore a different aspect of the early 1900s. All hands-on fun, games, and crafts!

Ages: 5 and up; suggested donation \$2 per person.

Wednesday, August 20th at 8:00 am

A Birding Adventure

Lorimer Park • 215-947-3477

Join Ruth Pfeffer on a bird walk. See and hear resident songbirds, woodpeckers, water birds, and early migrants. Bring binoculars and field guides if you have them. A limited number of loaners are available.

All ages; free; pre-registration required; meet in the parking lot on Moredon Rd.

Saturday, August 23rd at 1:00 pm

Butterflies and Dragonflies through Binoculars

Green Lane Park • 215-234-4528

Come out and take a closer look at these colorful and charismatic insects. Their wary nature can make watching them a challenge, but last year's participants identified 15 species of butterflies, in addition to numerous dragonflies and damselflies! Bring binoculars (and a camera if you like) and join us for this insect adventure.

Ages: 8 to adult; free, pre-registration required; meet at Fly-fishing Area on Church Road, Green Lane Park.

Sunday, August 24th at 2:00 pm

Workshop: Nature Photography

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Beginners to advanced photographers are welcome. Bring any kind of a camera and binoculars. Learn how to take great pictures of wildlife. Shorebirds and other migratory species will be our focus. The workshop will be about two hours. Wear your walking shoes.

Ages: adults and children ages 12 and up; free; pre-registration required; meet in parking lot #5.

Sunday, August 24th at 7:00 pm

Discoveries at Dusk

Lorimer Park • 215-947-3477

Join the park naturalist as we explore the park in the hour before sunset. Mammals generally become more active then, and perhaps we'll be lucky to see some. We'll be hiking hills on rocky trails. Sturdy footwear is recommended.

Ages: adults with or without children (minimum age 5); free; pre-registration required; meet in the classroom.

Saturday, August 30th at 3:00 pm

WORKSHOP:

Nature Photography

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Any level of photographer is welcome to attend. Bring a camera (any type) and binoculars. We're going to the meadows to take pictures of wildlife, especially birds. Learn some of the tricks of the trade. The workshop will be about two hours. Wear your walking shoes.

Ages: adults and children 12 years and up; free; pre-registration required; meet in parking lot #2.

september

Saturday, September 6th at 8:00 am

September Songbirds

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Believe it or not many birds have already begun their fall migration. Vireos, flycatchers, thrushes, and some lingering warblers are moving through our area. Join us as we observe these species and more. Bring binoculars if you have them.

Ages: adults and children ages 10 and up; free; pre-registration is required; meet in parking lot #2.

Saturday, September 6th at 1:00 pm

Creek Critters

Green Lane Park • 215-234-4528

Join us for a close-up (and knee-deep) look at life in the Perkiomen Creek. These waters are home to a great variety of aquatic insects and other invertebrates. We will investigate their special adaptations for life in fast moving water. Wear old sneakers or water shoes, we will be getting wet!

Ages: 3 to adult; free; pre-registration suggested; meet at Fly-fishing Area on Church Road, Green Lane Park.

Sunday, September 7th at 2:00 pm

Insect Safari

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Four out of every five species is an insect! Learn about the marvelous diversity of form and function in this group. Search for insects and their close relatives with Dr. Tim Halverson in a variety of habitats. If you have your own bug jar and/or net, bring it.

Ages: adults with or without children (ages 7 and up); free; pre-registration required; meet in parking lot #3 near the kiosk.

Wednesday, September 10th through Friday, September 12th from 9:00 to 10:30 am

Senior Social

Pennypacker Mills • 610-287-9349

Meet and greet other Seniors as the Mills presents a special music program each day. We'll meet on the mansion porch for coffee and Danish and listen to a variety of musical devices. Senior centers and retirement communities please contact the site in advance; pre-registration required.

Seniors; fee \$2 per person.

Saturday, September 13th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

LAERENSWAERT "WORTH LEARNING" SERIES:

Quilting Away the Day

Peter Wentz Farmstead • 610-584-5104

Learn some quilting techniques of earlier centuries and view the antique quilts on display.

All ages: suggested donation \$2 per person.

Saturday, September 13th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Native American Day

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Join us for our annual Native American Day. Lee Hallman,

president of the Indian Artifact Collectors Association of the Northeast, will display many artifacts. Bring some of your own for free appraisal. Other presenters will give demonstrations and displays of Lenape culture, including flint knapping, jewelry, clothing, tools, and foods. Come and talk to these knowledgeable people. There will be children's games and crafts.

All ages; free; display held at the picnic pavilions (lot #3); enter the park from Germantown Pike if you are driving to the event.

Saturday, September 13th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

Butterfly Celebration

Upper Schuylkill Valley Park • 610-948-5170

Come and help us celebrate an amazing little insect...the butterfly! The Park will be hosting local Monarch Butterfly expert Ann Ward from Winged Wonders Education. This program will include information on tagging, feeding and raising butterflies. There will be activities for the kids and much more. If the weather allows, we will release tagged monarchs so they can begin their migration south.

All ages; suggested donation \$4 per person; event will be held weather permitting as all activities will be outdoors.

Sunday, September 14th at 8:00 am

Fall Migration Bird Walk

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Join us for an early bird walk to see resident and non-resident species as the fall migration continues. Bring binoculars if you have them.

Ages: adults and children ages 10 and up; free; pre-registration required; meet in parking lot #2.

Tuesday, September 16th at 1:00 pm

The Itsy Bitsy Spider

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Take a first look at spiders. Learn about their movement, webs, and more. Play a spider game and go on a field hunt for spiders. Create a spider craft before you leave.

Ages: 3 and up with an adult; fee \$5 per child; pre-registration required; meet at the pavilions.

Saturday, September 20th from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

Living History: "Clothing the Common Sort"

Pottsgrove Manor • 610-326-4014

What did our colonial ancestors wear to work? Historian Deborah Peterson will give show-and-tell presentations at 11 am and 1 pm, explaining the clothing of laboring men, women, and children in 18th century America. Throughout the day, visitors can see our living history volunteers dressed in such working-class clothing and demonstrating various colonial chores.

All ages; suggested donation \$2 per person.

Sunday, September 21st at 2:00 pm

Poisonous Plants

Lorimer Park • 215-947-3477

Generally plants cause toxic reactions only if ingested, other than the occasional brush with poison ivy or stinging nettles. For those interested in harvesting wild plants for edible or medicinal use, learning what to avoid is essential. Join us on a walk to learn to recognize local poisonous plants.

Ages: adults and children 12 and up; free; pre-registration required; meet in the classroom.

Wednesday, September 24th at 8:00 am

Early Fall Bird Walk

Lorimer Park • 215-947-3477

Join local birder Ruth Pfeffer for a fun birding adventure in a beautiful park. Migrating warblers, raptors, and resident birds will be the focus. Bring binoculars. We have a limited number of 'loaner' binoculars and field guides.

All ages; free; pre-registration required; meet in the parking lot on Moredon Rd.

Saturday, September 27th from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Rain Gardens

Lower Perkiomen Valley Park • 610-666-5371

Discover how rain gardens impact native species and the health of our waterways. Participants will get their hands dirty installing a garden using native plants that promote habitat for important insects and animals. Our site will be pre-excavated and ready for planting. Plants, tools and other equipment will be provided.

Ages: 6 and up; suggested donation \$2 per person; pre-registration is required; event will be held weather permitting; meet at the Main Pavilion.

Saturday, September 27th from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

Upper Perkiomen Bird & Wildlife Festival

Green Lane Park • 215-234-4528

Join us for a fun outing for the entire family as we celebrate our 4th annual event that focuses on birds, wildlife and their habitats. In addition to live bird and butterfly demonstrations and tips for inviting birds to your backyard, there will be live music, hands-on kid's games and activities, natural crafts, nature art and native plants for sale, food sales, hayrides and much more. Bring the whole family as we celebrate our wildlife heritage.

All ages; free; all activities will be held in and adjacent to Green Lane Park Amphitheater.

Saturday, September 27th from 2:00 to 5:00 pm

Victorian Tea – The Fashion Show

Pennypacker Mills • 610-287-9349

See the latest fashions of the early 1900s with all the accessories as you enjoy a Victorian afternoon tea. Food courtesy of the Culinary Institute of Montgomery County Community College.

Adults & Children ages 12 and up; fee: \$40 per person, by pre-registration & pre-payment; registration opens August 12th.

Sunday, September 28th at 1:00 pm

Colors from Nature

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Nature's paints come in all the colors of the earth and every shade you can imagine. In the past we've used pigments from blueberries, blackhaw, wild green herbs, pokeweed, barberry twigs, goldenrod, and black walnuts. Join us for a painting session using nature's palette.

Ages: adults with or without children (ages 7 and up); fee \$5 per person; pre-registration required; meet at the park office.

october

Wednesday, October 1st at 10:00 am & 1:00 pm

KINNERGSCHPIEL "CHILD'S PLAY" SERIES:

Dress-Up Day

Peter Wentz Farmstead • 610-584-5104

Preschoolers will learn what people wore during the 1700s and play dress-up with some costumes. Bring your cameras!

Ages: 3 and up accompanied by an adult; fee \$5 per child; pre-registration required.

Wednesday, October 1st at 1:00 pm

Trees Are Terrific!

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Take an in depth look at trees. Why do we like them? Learn the parts of a tree, how they grow, and why they are so important to us. Walk to identify trees. Play a tree game and make a leafy craft.

Ages: adults and children ages 5 and up; fee \$5 per child; pre-registration required; meet at the pavilions, parking lot #3.

Saturday, October 4th at 8:00 am

Earlybird Walk

Green Lane Park • 215-234-4528

Fall songbird migration should be in full swing as warblers, sparrows and others stop by the park on their journey south. Bring binoculars and come out to one of the region's premier bird-watching hot spots.

Ages: 9 and up; free; meet at the Fly-fishing Area on Church Road, Green Lane Park.

Saturday, October 4th from 6:00 to 7:30 pm

Sunset Walk & Campfire

Pennypacker Mills • 610-287-9349

General George Washington and about 8,000 troops encamped at the Mills in the fall of 1777 and marched into Philadelphia to fight the Battle of Germantown. Join us as we bring to life the story of the encampment here, then we'll end at a campfire.

All ages; suggested donation \$2 per person.

Sunday, October 5th at 1:00 pm

Scarecrow Making

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

How do you make a scarecrow? It's really not that hard, but we thought it would be more fun if we did it together. We'll have a contest (with several categories) to see whose is the best. If you want to donate your scarecrow or make an extra for our park, we'd love to display it at our Park in the Dark night hike. Bring clothes and a hat for making your scarecrow. We'll supply the straw.

Ages: adults with or without children (5 years and up); fee \$5 per scarecrow; pre-registration required; meet at the park office.

Saturday, October 11th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

LAERENSWAERT "WORTH LEARNING" SERIES:

Fall Harvest

Peter Wentz Farmstead • 610-584-5104

Explore the traditional chores performed during the autumn harvest on a colonial farm. Visit the garden and spend time in the summer kitchen to experience food preservation. Join the farmers as they shell corn and press apples for cider. Be sure to view a letter General Washington wrote while temporarily headquartered at the Wentz's in October 1777.

All ages; suggested donation \$2 per person.

Saturday, October 11th at 1:00 and 3:00 pm

Flight of the Falcon

Green Lane Park • 215-234-4528

Join us as special guest falconer Sheryl Heimbach of Baywing Falconry returns with her incredible live birds of prey program. Using live birds as teaching aids, Sheryl sheds new light on these amazing birds and their lifestyles and ecology. She also explores the ancient art of falconry in a uniquely engaging fashion.

All ages; free; meet adjacent to Green Lane Park Amphitheater.

Saturday, October 11th at 6:30 pm

By The Light of the Moon

Upper Schuylkill Valley Park • 610-948-5170

Visit us for a moonlit tour of the animals at the Park. Visitors will learn about the resident animals and hear their sounds during the evening hours.

All ages; suggested donation \$2 per person; pre-registration is required; event will be held weather permitting as all activities will be outdoors; refreshments will be served at the end of the tour.

Sunday, October 12th at 2:00 pm

Habitat Restoration

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Join Ranger Mike Seasholtz in the on-going effort to remove invasive plants from the park. Individuals, families, and groups are welcome. Bring work gloves, loppers, pruning saws, and trowels

are handy if you have them. Come on out, we need your help! Learn to recognize native and non-native plants.

Ages: adults and children 9 and up; pre-registration is required; meet in the office parking lot.

Thursday, October 16th beginning at 7:00 pm

Night Life

Peter Wentz Farmstead • 610-584-5104

What happened at the Wentz House after the sun went down? Join us for an exploration of night in the eighteenth century and what it meant for residents of a home like the Wentz family's.

Ages: 12 and up; suggested donation \$2 per person; pre-registration required.

Friday, October 17th at 7:00 pm (last tour leaves at 7:45 pm)

Park in the Dark!

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Hear a few scary stories and see a "specter" or two as you walk through the park at night. Watch out for witches and goblins! Flashlights not allowed. The walk is in the dark and not meant for the faint of heart. The event is co-sponsored by the Farm Park Preservation Association.

Ages: adults with or without children (minimum age 7); fee \$5 per person; pre-registration required for groups of 10 or more; meet at the Milk House/Park Office parking lot.

Saturday, October 18th at 10:00 am

Fall Foliage Hike

Green Lane Park • 215-234-4528

Lace up your hiking boots and join a Park Ranger for a 3-mile hike to enjoy the fall colors of Green Lane Park. Moderate terrain.

Ages: 9 and up; free; pre-registration required; meet at the Tennis Court Parking Area off Green Lane Road.

Saturday, October 18th from 1:00 to 4:00 pm

All Hallow's Eve Fall Festival

Pennypacker Mills • 610-287-9349

The leaves are turning and the frost is on the pumpkin! Time to visit Pennypacker Mills for pumpkin painting, fall kid crafts, tractor-pulled hayrides, turning the apple cider press and shucking corn.

All ages; suggested donation \$2 per person; refreshments served.

Sunday, October 19th from 1:00 to 4:00 pm

Fall Foliage Hike

Lock 60 at Schuylkill Canal Park • 610-917-8030

Autumn is the ideal time for exploring Pennsylvania's forests by foot, the air is crisp and cool, the trails are dry and the colors up close are simply gorgeous. The two mile hike is moderately difficult and will follow the Neil Thorpe Trail along the waterfalls to vistas above the Schuylkill River, and then down along the Schuylkill River. We'll end at the Locktender's House for some complimentary refreshments.

Ages: 12 and up with an adult; \$5 donation appreciated, pre-registration requested, meet at Locktender's House.

Sunday, October 19th at 2:00 pm

Fall Fungi

Lorimer Park • 215-947-3477

Join us for our annual mushroom walk. Learn which mushrooms are better eyed than fried. Find out why fungi are an intrinsic part of our ecosystem. We will collect and identify mushrooms as we walk in the woods.

Ages: adults and children 8 and up; free; pre-registration required; meet in the classroom.

Tuesday, October 21st at 1:00 pm

Black Cats, Bats, and Rats

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Excitement is building with Halloween coming soon. Do black cats, bats, and rats scare you? Take a second look at some of the animals that we associate with Halloween. Hear a story and make a spooky craft. There may be a trick or a treat! Wear your costume and find out.

Ages: 3 and up with an adult; fee \$5 per child; pre-registration required; meet at the park office.

Friday, October 24th at 10:00 am

What a Hoot

Upper Schuylkill Valley Park • 610-948-5170

Come and meet the Park's resident Owls. We'll talk about their habitat, diet and their unusual calls. A craft to make and take home will be included in the fun.

Ages: 3-5; suggested donation \$4 per person; pre-registration is required; event will be held weather permitting as all activities will be outdoors.

Friday, October 24th at 7:00 pm

Star Watch Party

Green Lane Park • 215-234-4528

Join members of the Bucks-Mont Amateur Astronomy Association for this special program on the stars and constellations. Volunteers from the club will have telescopes available for use, and answers to all your night sky questions. This is an outdoor program, dress for the weather!

Ages: 6 and up; free; meet at Red Trail parking lot, 2005 Knight Road, Green Lane.

Saturday, October 25th from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm

"The Plantation Whereon I Live": A Hands-On Experience of Everyday Life at Pottsgrove Manor

Pottsgrove Manor • 610-326-4014

What was everyday life like for the inhabitants of the iron

plantation and colonial town of John Potts? Experience chores, trades, and pastimes of the 18th-century with a number of hands-on activities, living history demonstrations, and take-home crafts. This fun and educational program is great for everyone from individual families to scout and youth groups.

Best suited for elementary-aged children; fee \$5 materials fee per child; pre-registration required for groups of 10 or more; weather permitting; dress for the weather, as most activities will be outdoors.

Saturday, October 25th at 7:30 pm

An Evening of Bone Chilling

Ghost Stories & Bonfire

Green Lane Park • 215-234-4528

Join us by a roaring campfire and hear tales of haunting, revenge and mystery! This will be an outdoor program. No rain date.

All ages; free; please bring a chair or blanket to sit on; meet at the Tennis Court Parking Area off Green Lane Road.

Sunday, October 26th at 1:00 pm

Potpourri of Pods

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Join the naturalist as we search for interesting flower pods, grasses, and rose hips to use in dried flower arrangements and fall décor for your home. Learn to identify plants when they are past the blooming stage. Bring garden gloves, clippers, and a basket or tall bucket for gathering.

Ages: adults with or without children (minimum age 8); free; pre-registration required; meet in the Shannon Mansion parking lot.

Sunday, October 26th at 3:00 pm

Fireside Fables

Lower Perkiomen Valley Park • 610-666-5371

Meet the Rangers and warm yourself by our fire at Lower Perkiomen Valley Park while we relive Oaks area fables. These spooky, yet family-friendly stories from days gone by include a young woman lost near the Schuylkill River, a copper miner and his untimely demise, and a Revolutionary-era soldier discovered by British scouts. Refreshments will be provided.

Ages: 8 and up; suggested donation \$2 per person; pre-registration is required as seating is limited; event will be held weather permitting; participants should meet at the Main Pavilion; bring blankets for snuggling.

Tuesday, October 28th at 6:30 pm

Owl-o-ween Hoot

The John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove • 610-666-5593

Come and learn about the birds that rule the night! Meet our owls, hunt for bones within owl pellets, then make your own Owl-o-ween craft to bring home!

Ages: 3 and up with an adult; fee \$8 per child, and pre-registration is required.

november

Saturday, November 1st and Sunday, November 2nd
from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm

SEWING WORKSHOP:

“A Well-Fitted Pair of Breeches”

Pottsgrove Manor • 610-326-4014

Master tailor Henry Cooke will provide instruction on fitting and constructing a period-correct pair of 18th century breeches, trousers, or overalls. He will also have examples of original breeches and other men's legwear on hand for study.

Ages: 14 and up; fee \$120 per person for the weekend (includes Sat. & Sun. lunches; fabric and notions not included—contact the site for information on purchasing a pre-cut kit or pattern). Participants should have some experience in hand sewing and garment construction. Class size is limited to 12; registration and payment required by October 18th.

Sunday, November 2nd at 4:00 pm

White-tailed Deer

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Our largest local mammal deserves a program of its own. Learn some natural history about Whitetails. Explore the park in search of signs that deer leave behind. While there are no guarantees with wildlife, we should be able to see the animal. Sturdy footwear is recommended.

Ages: adults with or without children (minimum age 7); free; pre-registration required; meet in the office parking lot.

Tuesday, November 4th at 1:00 pm

Squirrel Signs

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Take a first look at squirrels (or maybe a second one). Gray squirrels are very busy this time of the year. Do you know what they are doing? Learn about this acrobatic mammal. We'll walk to look for squirrel homes and signs they leave behind. Hear a story and make a craft.

Ages: 3 and up with an adult; fee \$5 per child; pre-registration required; meet at the park office.

Wednesday, November 5th at 10:00 am and 1:00 pm

KINNERGSCHPIEL “CHILD’S PLAY” SERIES:

Spices

Peter Wentz Farmstead • 610-584-5104

Preschoolers will learn about the origins of spices and then prepare a sachet of a common spice mix. Dress to get dirty!

Ages: 3 and up accompanied by an adult; fee \$5 per child; pre-registration required.

Saturday, November 8th from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

LAERENSWAERT “WORTH LEARNING” SERIES:

Tails on the Trails

Peter Wentz Farmstead • 610-584-5104

Walk the grounds of the Farmstead to visit with some local

dog rescue groups and to learn more about the opportunities available in the area for you and your furry friends. All dogs are welcome, but MUST remain on a leash.

All ages; suggested donation \$2 per person.

Saturday, November 8th at 11:00 am

Teasel Workshop

The John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove • 610-666-5593

Join in our traditional Teasel Workshop and help support Mill Grove! Use a teasel seed pod and other natural elements to make a wonderful 'Teasel Critter' to be sold in the museum gift shop. Participants are asked to make teasels that will be sold or used for decoration within the museum, and are welcome to make a teasel of their very own! All materials are provided.

All ages; free.

Sunday, November 9th at 1:00 pm

The Native American Way

Lorimer Park • 215-947-3477

Learn about the people who lived here long ago. See some of their tools and the natural things that they used in their everyday life. Touch the pelts of animals that they hunted. Walk to find the wild plants that were their food and medicine.

Ages: adults with or without children (minimum age 6); free; pre-registration required; meet at the classroom.

Saturday, November 15th at 10:00 am

Deck the Halls with Garden Materials

Pennypacker Mills • 610-287-9349

Join Master Gardener Julie Phillips and see a demonstration of inexpensive, easy-to-make holiday decorations using garden materials.

All ages; suggested donation \$2 per person; refreshments served.

Saturday, November 15th at 10:00 am

Pine Cone Wreath Workshop

Green Lane Park • 215-234-4528

Join us for the first of four holiday craft workshops. We will have pine cone wreaths pre-made, and participants can decorate them with local nuts, pods and cones. Please bring a hot glue gun if you have one.

Ages: 12 to adult; materials fee \$8 per person, pre-registration required; limit 16 people; meet at the Deep Creek Pavilion.

Saturday, November 15th at 1:00 pm

Holiday Centerpiece Workshop

Green Lane Park • 215-234-4528

Come to the park and make a beautiful holiday centerpiece for your table using local cones, nuts and seed pods. Afterward, you can add your own candle and fresh greens to complete your creation. Please bring a hot glue gun, if you have one.

Ages: 12 to adult, materials fee \$8 per person; pre-registration required; limit 16 people; meet at the Deep Creek Pavilion.

Sunday, November 16th at 1:00 pm

Gyotaku: Japanese Fish Printing

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Nature printing is an ancient tool of science as well as an art form. Gyotaku (guh-yo-tah-koo) is Japanese for "fish printing." We'll use both real fish and replicas to make our prints. The art you create will be suitable for framing. Make someone a gift or use it to decorate your own walls.

Ages: Adults with or without children (minimum age 10); fee \$5 per person; pre-registration required; meet at the park office.

Wednesday, November 19th at 1:00 pm

First Look at Turkeys

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Gobble wobble season is here. Learn about the bird around which our holiday revolves. Hear a turkey call, touch a turkey feather, and make a special turkey craft. What do turkeys eat? Take a short walk to look for their food and habitat.

Ages: 3 and up with an adult; fee \$5 per child; pre-registration required; meet at the park office.

Friday, November 21st at 10:00 am

Terrific Turkeys

Upper Schuylkill Valley Park • 610-948-5170

Come and meet the Wild Turkeys that call the Park home. Visitors will learn about the Turkey's habitat, diet and the way the male puts on a display. A craft to make and take home will be included.

Ages: 3-7; suggested donation \$4 per person; pre-registration is required; perfect for small pre-school and elementary groups; event will be held weather permitting as all activities will be outdoors.

Saturday, November 22nd at 10:00 am

Holiday Wall Hanging Workshop

Green Lane Park • 215-234-4528

Make an attractive holiday decoration to hang on your wall or front door. We will use local nuts seeds and pods to create a masterpiece you can take "home for the holidays." Bring a hot glue gun if you have one.

Ages: 12 to adult, materials fee \$8 per person; pre-registration required; limit 16 people; meet at the Deep Creek Pavilion.

Saturday, November 22nd at 1:00 pm

Winsome Woodland Critters Workshop

Green Lane Park • 215-234-4528

Join us as we make "Woodland Critters" using local cones, nuts and seed-pods. We will have plenty of samples on display, or you can use your creative abilities to design your own. Bring a hot glue gun if you have one.

Ages: 12 to adult, materials fee \$8 per person; pre-registration required; limit 16 people; meet at the Deep Creek Pavilion.

Sunday, November 23rd at 1:00 pm

Thanksgiving Centerpieces

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Create a Thanksgiving table centerpiece from autumn's bounty.

We'll supply colorful pressed leaves, acorns and other nuts, grasses, field-dried flowers, and berries for your masterpiece. Bring clippers and a special container, opaque vase, or a basket to make it in.

Ages: adults with or without children (minimum age 12); fee \$5 per person; pre-registration required; meet at the park office.

Tuesday, November 25th through Sunday, January 5, 2015
during regular museum hours

Holiday Tours

Pennypacker Mills • 610-287-9349

Plan your visit to see a Pennypacker Christmas! Shiny glass ornaments and silky ribbons combine with nature inspired birds and flowers for a uniquely Victorian display. The Servant Area shows where the behind-the-scenes work was done and holiday foods were prepared. Delight in visions of holidays past that will inspire you to create your own spectacular home décor. Museum Shop stocked with vintage inspired decorations, holiday candies, toys, gifts, and books. Closed Mondays and major holidays.

All ages; suggested donation \$2 per person; groups of 10 or more should contact the site to schedule a group tour.

Friday, November 28th to Sunday, January 11, 2015
during regular museum hours

Twelfth Night Tours

Pottsgrove Manor • 610-326-4014

Enjoy a guided tour of Pottsgrove Manor, decorated with greens and holly for the Yuletide season. Learn about traditional English celebrations of Twelfth Night and how they differed from our modern Christmas celebrations. Closed Mondays and major holidays.

All ages; suggested donation \$2 per person; groups of 10 or more should contact the site to schedule a group tour.

Saturday, November 29th at 1:00 pm

Holiday Crafts

Lower Perkiomen Valley Park • 610-666-5371

Enjoy the scenery and engage in some family-friendly craft making using natural, found objects. Children will explore around the Main Pavilion and collect evergreen clippings, twigs and pine cones to build a wreath. We will also make feeders from pinecones for our winter bird population and decorative ornaments to hang indoors or out.

Ages: 8 and up, adults with or without children welcome; suggested donation \$4 per person for materials; pre-registration is required as seating is limited; participants should meet at the Main Pavilion.

Saturday, November 29th at 1:00 pm

Waterfowl Watch

Green Lane Park • 215-234-4528

The fall migration of ducks, geese and swans is well underway; join us for a look at the migrants and migration. Participants in recent years have seen White-fronted Goose, Tundra Swans and

Canvasbacks, among others. Bring binoculars if you have them.
Ages: 8 to adult; free; meet at Tennis Court Parking Lot, Green Lane Park.

Sunday, November 30th at 1:00 pm

Holiday Wreaths

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Make a holiday wreath that you can use indoors or outdoors for seasons to come with natural materials such as grapevine, pine cones, nuts, and flower pods. Seasonal ribbon will be available if desired. Bring a glue gun and glue sticks.

Ages: adults with or without children (minimum age 12); fee \$5 per person; pre-registration required; meet at the park office.

december

Tuesday, December 2nd at 10:00 am

Winter Birds

Lorimer Park • 215-947-3477

Join us as we observe the birds that have not migrated. There is still a lot of bird activity in the park if we stay tuned. Learn how to improve bird habitat in your backyard. Which bird feeders are the best? What type of seeds do certain birds prefer? Learn this and more at our program. Make a pine cone, peanut butter, and seed treat to take home for the birds. Bring binoculars for our bird walk.

Ages: adults with or without children (minimum age 5); fee \$1 per person; pre-registration required; meet in the classroom.

Saturday, December 6th at 1:00 pm

Waterfowl Watch

Green Lane Park • 215-234-4528

The migration continues. See program description and meeting place for November 29th program.

Ages: 8 to adult; free; meet at Tennis Court Parking lot, Green Lane Park.

Saturday, December 6th from 2:00 to 9:00 pm
(Last tour begins at 8:30 pm)

Candlelight Tours

Peter Wentz Farmstead • 610-584-5104

The soft glow of candles will guide you throughout the Farmstead for tours showcasing colonial music, seasonal decorations, farm animals, and a visit from Belsnickel, a Pennsylvania German St. Nicholas in furs.

All ages: suggested donation \$2 per person.

Saturday, December 6th from 6:00 to 9:00 pm

Holiday Luminaire

Lock 60 at Schuylkill Canal Park • 610-917-8030

Visit Lock 60 and view over 1,000 luminaries lining the canal bank. The Locktender's House will be open to celebrate

the holidays with music, good cheer and a visit from Santa. Luminaries along tow path.

Ages: children with an adult; free although donation appreciated.

Sunday, December 7th at 1:00 pm

Natural Ornaments

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Tired of plastic holiday decorations? Join us for our traditional December program. Use seeds, pods, evergreen cones, and other natural materials to create holiday ornaments and whimsical woodland critters. Samples are on display. We have more ideas every year! Bring a glue gun and glue sticks. Program length is about two hours.

Ages: adults with or without children (minimum age 10); fee \$5 per person; pre-registration required; meet at the park office.

Sunday, December 7th from 1:00 to 4:00 pm

Holiday Open House

The John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove • 610-666-5593

Join us for our annual celebration of John James Audubon's love of nature! The house and museum will be decorated for the holidays inside and out, and admission will be free! Events for the whole family include: live owl presentations, live music, and scavenger hunt. Light refreshments will be available. Shop our gift shop for our unique teal seal critters and other holiday items.

All ages; free.

Wednesday, December 10th at 10:00 am and 1:00 pm

KINNERGSCHPIEL "CHILD'S PLAY" SERIES:

Holidays

Peter Wentz Farmstead • 610-584-5104

Preschoolers will learn about historic holiday traditions and make a craft to take home.

Ages: 3 and up accompanied by an adult; fee \$5 per child; pre-registration required.

Wednesday, December 10th at 1:00 pm

Holiday Crafts for Kids

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Spend an enjoyable afternoon making gift tags, printing wrapping paper, and making ornaments and other holiday decorations from natural materials.

Ages: 5 and up with an adult; fee \$5 per child; pre-registration required; meet at the park office.

Saturday, December 13th from 2:00 to 8:00 pm

Victorian Christmas Open House

Pennypacker Mills • 610-287-9349

Join us for a Victorian Christmas celebration! Delight in the sights and sounds of a bell choir on the porch, the jolly laugh of our Victorian Santa Claus, and our living historians who will bring the mansion to life for the holidays! See a Clear Toy Candy

demonstration in our restored kitchen. Museum Shop is stocked with vintage inspired gifts, books, decorations, and holiday candies. Refreshments served.

All ages; suggested donation \$2 per person.

Saturday, December 13th at 3:00 pm

Owl Prowl

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Walk with us as we look and listen for the owls of the Farm Park. Owl pairs are starting their courtship now and are calling back and forth. Bring binoculars.

Ages: adults and children ages 10 and up; free; pre-registration required; meet in parking lot #2.

Sunday, December 14th at 1:00 pm

Reindeer Romp

Norristown Farm Park • 610-270-0215

Do you know the difference between reindeer, caribou, and our local deer? Find out about reindeer and other animals of the far north. Hear a story, play reindeer games, and make a reindeer craft. Walk to find reindeer food.

Ages: 3 and up with an adult; fee \$5 per child; pre-registration required; meet at the park office.

Sunday, December 14th from 2:00 to 8:00 pm

Pottsgrove Manor by Candlelight

Pottsgrove Manor • 610-326-4014

Tour the mansion by candlelight as costumed interpreters portray its colonial residents as they celebrate Twelfth Night. From festivities in the parlor to hearth cooking in the kitchen, take in the sights and sounds of the season. Afterward, enjoy tasty refreshments while the kids make seasonal crafts to take home!

All ages; suggested donation \$2 per person.