

TULPEHAKING

nature center
at the Abbott Marshlands



2025 WINTER

www.mercercounty.org/parks

WINTER PROGRAMS

Register at register.communitypass.net/mercer unless otherwise noted.

Candy Cane Compass Challenge

Saturday, December 7

2-4 pm

TULPEHAKING NATURE CENTER

Free

All ages

'Tis the season for candy canes and camaraderie! Join us for a quick introduction to map and compass skills before taking on a wintertime compass challenge while exploring the Abbott Marshlands. It's sure to be a sweet time!

[Registration required](#)



Morning Mushroom Walk

Saturday, December 7 @ BALDPATE MOUNTAIN

Saturday, January 4 @ TULPEHAKING NATURE CENTER

Saturday, February 1 @ MERCER MEADOWS

9-11 am

Free

All ages

There are many mighty mushrooms sprouting in Mercer County. These phenomenal fungi are fantastic facets of forest floors filling us with fascination and fabulous feelings. Learn more about mushrooms and more in this guided hike.

[Registration required](#)

Beautiful Bryophytes

Saturday, December 14

10-noon

MERCER COUNTY PARK

Free

All ages

Bryophyte is the informal group name for mosses, liverworts and hornworts. Learn all about these beautiful, sometimes forgotten, little plants on a guided hike!

[Registration required](#)

Pine Cone Ornaments

Saturday, December 14

2-4 pm

TULPEHAKING NATURE CENTER

Free

Families

Winter is the perfect time to get crafty with pine cones. Join us at the nature center to learn about conifer trees and make some ornaments.

[Registration required](#)



Guided Nature Walk

Friday, December 20 @ MERCER MEADOWS @ BLACKWELL RD. PARKING LOT

Friday, January 17 @ MERCER MEADOWS @ POLE FARM PARKING LOT

Friday, February 21 @ MERCER COUNTY PARK - WEST PICNIC AREA PARKING LOT

2-4 pm

Free

Adults and teens

Explore a different park trail each month.

[Registration required](#)

Tully's Tales

Friday, December 20

Friday, January 17

Friday, February 21

10:30-11:30 am

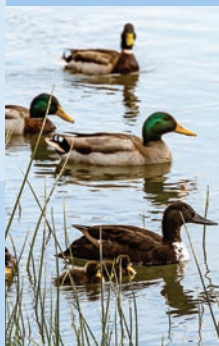
TULPEHAKING NATURE CENTER

Free

Preschool with caregiver

Bring your little ones to our nature-themed story & play time. We'll read nature stories and participate in a fun craft or game, all especially designed for preschoolers.

No registration required.



Winter Waterfowl Walk

Saturday, December 21

Saturday, January 18

10-noon

ROEBLING PARK

@ SPRING LAKE

PARKING LOT

Free

Adults and teens

We'll search the Abbott Marshlands for waterfowl and other birds who have migrated here for the winter season.

[Registration required](#)



Pop-Up Nature Center

Saturday, January 4

1-4 pm

MERCER COUNTY PARK @ ICE SKATING RINK

Free

Families

Use hands-on activities to learn about nature topics such as animal tracks, trees, and more.

No registration required.

Winter Solstice Walk

Saturday, December 21

2-4 pm

TULPEHAKING NATURE CENTER

Free

All ages

The winter solstice is the first day of winter and the shortest day of the year. Celebrate this time of rebirth by venturing outside for a guided walk then warm up in the nature center with hot chocolate.

[Registration required](#)

Winter Nocturnals Hike

Saturday, January 11

4-6 pm

MERCER MEADOWS

Free

All ages

Join us for a hike through Mercer Meadows as we seek the rare nocturnal animals that stay active in the winter.

[Registration required](#)



4th Friday Game Night

Friday, December 27

Friday, January 24

Friday, February 28

6-8 pm

TULPEHAKING NATURE CENTER

Free

Families

Visit the Nature Center for an evening of family fun with board games, bingo, turtle time, and light refreshments!

[Registration required](#)



Bird Bath Basics

Sunday, January 19

2-3:30 pm

TULPEHAKING NATURE CENTER

\$15 materials fee

Adults and teens

Installing a bird bath is one of the best ways to help our feathered friends throughout the year. In this workshop, you'll learn tips and tricks for bird bath success then build a bird bath to take home.

[Registration required](#)

Recycle Right & Craft Smart

Saturday, December 28

2-4 pm

TULPEHAKING NATURE CENTER

Free

All ages

Discover the importance of proper recycling and creative upcycling in this fun, hands-on workshop. Unleash your creativity by making a unique craft from upcycled materials!

[Registration required](#)

Short-eared Owl Walk

Thursday, January 23

Thursday, February 6

4-6 pm

MERCER MEADOWS

Free

Adults and teens

Join us at dusk to see the Short-eared Owls hunting for their next meal in the meadows.

[Registration required](#)



It's a New Year Hike!

Thursday, January 2

10-noon

MERCER COUNTY PARK @ MARINA BOATHOUSE

Free

Adults and teens

Ring in the New Year by taking a brisk guided walk along Lake Mercer.

[Registration required](#)

Winter Tree ID

Saturday, January 25

2-4 pm

BALDPATE MOUNTAIN

Free

All ages

When the trees lose their leaves, we lose the easiest way to identify which tree is which. Take a hike with us at Baldpate and learn the skills to identify the trees from what remains.

[Registration required](#)

S.T.E.A.M. Night

Saturday, January 25

6-8 pm

TULPEHAKING NATURE CENTER

Free

Families

Learn about the wonderful world around you through the lens of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Science. Try different experiments and build as we make discoveries in a night that is fun for the whole family!

[Registration required](#)



Winter Animal Tracking

Saturday, January 11

10-noon

TULPEHAKING NATURE CENTER

Free

All ages

Identifying animals by their tracks and recognizing game trails can be a daunting task when you are first learning the skill. Learn how to identify animals by their tracks and spot their ideal pathways.

[Registration required](#)



Winter Wildlife

Saturday, February 1

2-3:30 pm

TULPEHAKING NATURE CENTER

Free

Families

What are animals doing during the long, cold months of winter? Our scavenger hunt will help us search for winter wildlife clues.

[Registration required](#)

Rocks Rock!

Saturday, February 8

noon-2 pm

TULPEHAKING NATURE CENTER

Free

All ages

Join us for a hike to our dry stream bed to learn about quartz, iron, and more!

[Registration required](#)



Meet our Animal Ambassadors

Saturday, February 1

10-11 am

TULPEHAKING NATURE CENTER

Free

All ages

Get an up close visit with our live animal ambassadors.

No registration required

Winter Land Art

Saturday, February 8

2-4 pm

TULPEHAKING NATURE CENTER

Free

All ages

Land Art is a type of art that's created by directly manipulating the landscape, either by sculpting the land or by constructing structures using natural materials. Join us on the trails to create impactful art that has minimal impact on the environment.

[Registration required](#)

Woodpecker Walk

Saturday, February 15

9-11 am

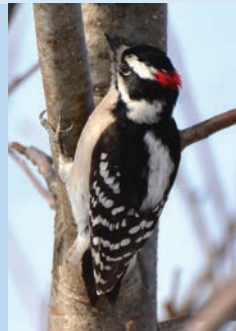
CURLIS WOODS

Free

Adults and teens

Learn about the uniquely adapted woodpecker while searching the woods for evidence of their presence.

[Registration required](#)



Build a Bee Abode

Sunday, February 9

2:30-4 pm

TULPEHAKING NATURE CENTER

Free

All ages

If you like pumpkins, cherries, or blueberries, then thank a native bee! Invite these helpful pollinators to your backyard by building a bee house in this workshop using natural materials.

[Registration required](#)



Night Hike

Saturday, February 22

6-8 pm

MERCER MEADOWS

Free

All ages

A star studded hike through the Mercer Meadows

[Registration required](#)





Family Sundays at the Nature Center

1:30 – 2:30 pm
TULPEHAKING NATURE CENTER
Free; All ages
No registration required.

Feed the Animals

December 1
January 5
February 2

It's lunchtime for our educational animals! See what it takes to keep them healthy, clean and fed. We might even enlist some willing hands to help.

Nature Art

December 8
January 12
February 9

Let's see what we can create with nature! We'll use natural materials to create unique, eco-friendly art projects for you to take home and enjoy.

Sundays are for STEM

December 15
January 19
February 16

Join us young innovators as we explore STEM concepts through fun experiments and creative challenges.

Exploration Station

December 22
January 26
February 23

Unearth your inner naturalist! Each month we'll have a new guided nature activity featuring our one-of-a-kind animal artifacts for you to explore.

Programs provided by the Friends for the Abbott Marshlands:

For more information and to register, visit abbottmarshlands.org/events/list/

Wednesday Wonder Walk

Every Wednesday
10 – 11:30 am



Stand Tall Yoga

Every Tuesday
10 – 11 am

Standing Yoga and Nature Walk

Second Saturdays,
December 14
January 11
February 8
10 – noon



Astronomy in the Marsh

Sunday, January 12
5:30 – 7:30 pm



Volunteer Open House & Forum

Saturday, January 18
10 – noon

Art in the Marsh: Sketching Bare Trees

Saturday, February 15
10 – noon



STAY TUNED for these
programs! Announcements
posted on [Facebook](#)
and [Instagram](#).

- Woodcock Walk
- Eyes on Eagles



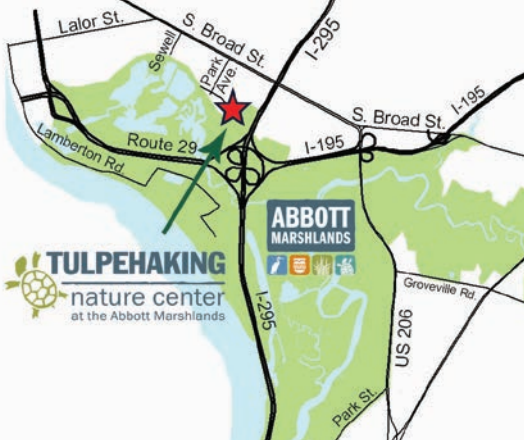
TULPEHAKING NATURE CENTER



**157 Westcott Avenue
Hamilton, NJ 08610
(609) 888-3218**

**Open to the Public:
Wednesday - Saturday:
10 am - 4 pm
Sunday: 1-4 pm**

**Tulpehaking Nature Center is located
2 miles south of downtown Trenton,
NJ, off of Route 206 (S. Broad Street).**



Registration Information

Registration & payment for all Mercer County Park Commission public programs are taken online at register.communitypass.net/mercer. For assistance with registration, please contact natureprograms@mercercounty.org or call (609) 888-3218, option 2.

Park Commission Nature Programs

Tulpehaking Nature Center is owned by Mercer County and is the headquarters of the Mercer County Park Commission's Department of Environmental Education.

We are passionate about providing high quality engaging experiences in the outdoors for everyone regardless of age, ability, or background. Our programs take an explorative approach to learning about the natural world as we showcase the incredible natural history of Mercer County.

