

The Lily Pad

The Newsletter of Friends of Reinstein Woods

Fall 2015



Share In Nature's Harmony

Reduce, Reuse & Recycle at the 15th Annual Fall Festival!

Saturday, September 19
10 AM to 4 PM

September 19 is also "Talk Like a Pirate Day," so we are encouraging everyone to act like a pirate and practice the three *RRR's*: *Reduce, Reuse and Recycle!* Bring old sneakers to the festival to **recycle**, find out how to **reduce** energy use from the NYS Department of Public Service, and **reuse** materials by making a "top" in the kids craft area!



Make a recycled paper hat - pretty or pirate - at the Fall Festival!

- Interactive exhibits from more than 30 local nature, environmental and historical organizations
- Compete in the Recycling Obstacle Course
- Test your skills at the Recycling Matching Game
- Festival favorites like "snow" shoeing and simulated fly fishing for kids
- Live animals
- Food for sale
- Music by Mama Earth
- Face painting, games, costumed characters, door prizes, and more!

For a list of demonstration times, exhibitors and activities, visit the Fall Festival webpage: <http://www.dec.ny.gov/education/68006.html>
A \$2 donation is requested at the door to cover the cost of the festival. For more information, call Reinstein Woods (716) 683-5959.

Friends of Reinstein Board of Directors

Linda Arndt,
Vice-President

Terrence Boyle

Dan Carlson

Stefanie Ecker

Michael Gettings,
President

Denine Jackson

Charles Rauch,
Secretary

Vinod Suchak
Treasurer

DEC Representative
Meaghan
Boice-Green

Friends Liaison
Michael Adriaansen

Office Manager
Ann Murphy

Newsletter Editor
Joan Beaton Scott

Reinstein Woods Via Smartphone: Lily Pond Loop Story Map

Reinstein Woods volunteer Wende Mix has put together a "story map" for visitors to the Lily Pond trail. Unlike a traditional map, the story map provides information about natural features at various locations along the trail, as well as links to more information about animals and plants you may encounter at those locations. You can access the story map from your computer or your smart phone! A link to the map will also be added soon to www.reinsteinwoods.org.



Contact
Friends of
Reinstein Woods

Reinsteinwoods@yahoo.com

716-683-5959

Hours of Operation
Education Center
M - F 9 am - 4:30 pm
Sat. 1 pm - 4:30 pm

Backyard Wilderness BBQ: A Perfect Late Spring Evening!

Friends of Reinstein Woods extends a huge thank you to everyone who generously donated to the Buffalo's Backyard Wilderness BBQ! The event was a big success in raising funds to support education and stewardship at Reinstein Woods. Thank you for your support!

Special Thanks to:

Russell's Steaks, Chops & More
Buffalo Press
Nussbaumer & Clarke,
Inc.
Citi Volunteers
Friends of Reinstein Woods
Volunteers



What's All The Buzz About?

Thanks to an anonymous donor, Reinstein Woods is now home to an observational bee hive! The bee hive in our exhibit space allows the bees to go in and out through a pipe in the wall, and provides opportunities for us to teach people about these important pollinators! Be sure to check it out on your next visit to the woods.



Kids Fishing Clinic, Fish Stocking a Highlight of Summer

In June, Reinstein Woods partnered with Lake Erie Chapter of the Federation of Fly Fishers (FFF) for its third annual youth fly fishing clinic. The weather cooperated very nicely for the group of 32 kids age 9 to 15 and their parents.



A young angler learns to tie a fly.

The young anglers visited several learning stations to explore different aspects of fly fishing through hands-on activities. At one station, kids used nets to scoop insects from a pond, and biologists from the US Fish and Wildlife Service helped to identify the insects collected.

At another station the young anglers created several of their own flies using colorful hackle feathers and chenille. Their goal was to tie something that would entice a fish to bite their feathered hook. A third station allowed kids to practice casting fly fishing rods at targets on the ground, before moving on to fly fish at Flattail Lake using the flies they had created.

All fish that were caught were released. Following the management plan of Reinstein Woods, fishing is only allowed at these educational fishing clinics.

At the end of the event, each child received a fly rod and reel as a gift from the FFF. The fly rods and training will hopefully provide the youngsters with many hours of outdoor enjoyment!

Earlier this spring the Federation of Fly Fishers purchased 200 fingerling largemouth bass from a local hatchery and stocked them at Flattail Lake after obtaining a permit from DEC. Flattail Lake lost its bass population when it was drained for dam maintenance years ago. The Federation of Fly Fishers is grateful for their partnership with Reinstein Woods, which furthers the educational mission of both organizations.

Field Trip Fund Started in Memory of Volunteer

Reinstein Woods lost a great supporter this summer when volunteer Patricia Taeger passed away. Pat and her husband Vincent helped with gardening, special events, trail work, and programs. Pat had recently become interested in helping Friends of Reinstein to expand the education center to accommodate its growing programs.

Pat worked as a teacher aide for Cheektowaga Central Schools. This past spring she brought the special education class she worked in on a field trip to Reinstein Woods, making special arrangements for transportation.

Transportation costs are often the biggest barrier for schools to send kids to places like Reinstein Woods. Therefore, donations to Friends of Reinstein Woods in her memory are being placed in a special field trip fund to provide transportation for special education classes. It is our hope that donations to the fund will continue into the future, providing a lasting legacy to honor Pat's memory. Donations can be made online by visiting: <http://reinsteinwoods.org/donate/donate-securely-online/> or mailed to:

Pat Taeger Field Trip Fund
Friends of Reinstein Woods
93 Honorine Drive
Depew, NY 14043



Friends and DEC join Forces to Combat Invasive Common Reed

Thanks to a grant from the New York Power Authority, Friends of Reinstein Woods will be beginning a two-year effort to control common reed in some portions of Reinstein Woods. Common reed, also known by its Latin name *Phragmites australis*, is an aggressive species that is impacting cattail marshes in the southern half of Reinstein Woods.



A certified pesticide applicator will cut stems and directly apply chemicals to the plants in early fall, when the plants are moving sugars down into their roots. The treatment will be followed by mowing a few weeks later. Most of the work will happen in the sanctuary in the southern half of the preserve, away from the public trails. The treatment will be repeated next year, in the hopes that only spot treatments will be needed after that.

You may notice that common reed is common in other parts of Reinstein Woods as well. If the project is successful in protecting our cattail marshes, similar methods may be used to combat common reed in other parts of the preserve.

Garden Partnership Blooms!

We're all familiar with kids not wanting to eat their vegetables, but how many kids have no idea where vegetables even come from? Thanks to a new partnership, kids at the Gloria J. Parks (GJP) Community Center in Buffalo will not only know, but they'll be growing their own vegetables! DEC's Ginger Wszalek worked with Friends of Reinstein Woods and the community center to partner with Grassroots Gardens of Buffalo. Grassroots Gardens is providing funds for rooftop gardens at the community center.

During the school year, DEC ran an After School Conservation Club for kids participating in GJP's after-school program. To build on the nature programming they received, Wszalek, along with volunteer Pat Taeger, helped the second graders plant vegetables, herbs, fruit and flowers in containers while the rooftop was being renovated. They taught the students "companion planting" techniques to help each plant grow stronger and tastier. Summer session attendees also enjoyed gardening, worm composting and garden art programs. Along the way, the children learned the life cycles of the plants and participated in basic garden maintenance.

The children especially enjoyed making recycled plant markers from blind shades to identify the plants in the pots. As of mid-August, the children had been able to taste edible flowers and experience the joy of eating fresh blueberries and kale. Soon they will be enjoying cherry tomatoes, cucumbers, green peppers, spinach, celery, strawberries and fresh-cut herbs. The center also provides cooking classes to the children, and they are eager to use the vegetables and herbs in their dishes.

Additional garden beds and vertical garden beds will be built on the rooftop soon for next year.



Students at Gloria J. Parks Community Center show off plant markers they made from recycled materials

Registration Open for Fall Programs

Ever wondered what Reinstein Woods was like a million years ago? Or how to deal with those pesky deer that are eating all your landscaping? Registration is open for Reinstein Woods' fall programs, which run the gamut from "Prehistoric Reinstein Woods" to "White-tail Deer Talk and Walk." There are programs for all ages and abilities.

View the list of programs at the end of the newsletter and be sure to call 683-5959 to register!



Support Reinstein Woods While Shopping!

If you shop online at Amazon, you can designate Friends of Reinstein Woods as your official charity. Your prices stay the same, but Amazon will donate 0.5% of the cost of all your future purchases to the Friends of Reinstein Woods. You only need to sign up once and the process takes less than 30 seconds. To sign up, visit <http://reinsteinwoods.org/donate/amazon-smile-program/>. Thank you for your support!



GMC, Other Awards Given at Volunteer Picnic

About 40 people enjoyed a beautiful summer evening at the annual volunteer picnic. Bill Boehm received the Al Schick Volunteer Appreciation Award for his outstanding service to Reinstein Woods. Bill has been volunteering with Reinstein Woods almost since the program began, serving in a variety of capacities, including greeter, board member, special events volunteer, and currently as our bottle and can recycler!



Bill Boehm receiving Al Schick Volunteer Appreciation Award

Stefanie Ecker received the Peter M. Losi Appreciation Award for her service to Friends of Reinstein Woods. Stefanie started as a Trail Tuesdays volunteer but quickly expanded her service to include serving on the Friends of Reinstein board of directors and chairing the fundraising committee. She is constantly inviting people to visit the woods and has been a great champion for Friends of Reinstein Woods.

In addition to these awards, members of Cub Scout Pack 592 were recognized for their first-place finish in the Garlic Mustard Challenge. The Cub Scout Pack has participated in the Garlic Mustard Challenge every year since it was started here, coming in fourth two years ago, second place last year, and finally first place this year! We are grateful to these young men and their parents for their service.

Congratulations to all the award winners!

Tree Talk (A message from the President)

I'm trying to write this article as my wife and I volunteer at the Erie County Fair for Reinstein Woods. I'm not getting a lot done because so many people stop by our display and inquire about the "Woods." I think most of the interest involves the ornate display created by Reinstein Woods Educator Ginger Wszalek which includes spinning CD "tops," a water bottle recycle bin and the flowering water hoses. There was a lot of interest shown by many of the fair goers.

My main purpose for this article is to ask for your help. A recent "MY View" article in the Buffalo News caused me to think about inviting Friends members to contribute a column to this newsletter. It could serve as a way to solicit thoughts and ideas from those who are members and want to be more engaged. Nature-related themes would be the main focus of the column. We will title the column "Tree Talk," and if successful have an article appear in each edition of this newsletter. If many articles are submitted we could establish a screening, I mean a screening, group to review. If you are interested in contributing, or have comments please let us know by emailing president@reinsteinwoods.org or by calling the office at 683 5959.

Thanks for your interest; we look forward to seeing you and your family this fall!!!!

– Michael Gettings, President



Recycling at Reinstein Woods Erie County Fair display.

SAVE THE DATES!

Nature's Gathering: An Evening of Art, Wine and Cheese **Saturday, November 14, 2015 5 PM - 8 PM**



Nature's Gathering participants
enjoying wine tasting.

Enjoy a tasting of fine wine, cheese, and hors d'oeuvres while browsing nature-themed artwork from Western New York artists. (Artists interested in showcasing their work should call Ann at 683-5959.)

Annual Membership Meeting **Tuesday, October 20, 2015 6:00 PM**

Join other Friends' members for dessert and coffee, a brief business meeting, elections, and "The Far Side 2" - an enjoyable look (and laugh) at nature with Dr. Wayne Gall.

Watch your email and regular mail for more information about these events.

Fall 2015 Programs

PLEASE NOTE: Registration is required for ALL programs unless otherwise indicated. Dress for the weather! In the event of inclement weather, outdoor programs may be canceled. We regret that we cannot accommodate organized youth/civic groups at these programs. Please call to make alternate arrangements for your organization. Programs are free of charge unless otherwise noted. **For further information or to register, call Reinstein Woods at 716-683-5959.**

We welcome those who have any type of physical challenge to all of our programs. If you call ahead to let us know your needs, we will be happy to learn how we can serve you.

SEPTEMBER

Saturday, September 5 at 10:30 AM

POND INVESTIGATION

What lives in the ponds of Reinstein Woods? Scoop along the edge of the pond and find out! Wear clothing and shoes that can get muddy.

Tuesday, September 8 at 2:00 PM

ADVANCED BIRDING: VISION

In this session of Advanced Birding we will focus on avian vision and how birds see the world in a completely different way than we do. **For adults only.**

Saturday, September 12 from 9:00 AM - noon

EDUCATOR WORKSHOP: SCHOOLYARD HABITAT

Teaching students outdoors is an effective way to maximize their engagement and revitalize your existing curriculum. Teachers will learn how to effectively use and enhance their schoolyard as an outdoor classroom through cross-curricular activities that emphasize ELA, math and science.

15TH ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL

Saturday, September 19 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Kick off the fall season by spending a day in the woods. Enjoy crafts for kids, live animals, hands-on activities, food, live music by Mama Earth and more! See www.dec.ny.gov/education/68006.html for more information. **No registration required.**

Tuesday, September 22 at 2:00 PM

ADVANCED BIRDING: AVIAN COLORATION

In this session of Advanced Birding, we will explore the diverse coloration among birds and how it plays a key role in their different lifestyles. **For adults only.**

Saturday, September 26 at 10:30 AM

SANCTUARY WALK

Here is your opportunity to take a tour of our sanctuary. Please wear appropriate footwear for muddy trails. **For adults only.**

Saturday, September 26 at 2:30 PM

BIRDING 101: CLASS #9

We will continue to learn how to identify birds by sight and sound as we focus on raptors and owls. Bring field guides and binoculars if you have them. **For adults and children ages 8 and older.**

Sunday, September 27 at 2:00 PM

HABITAT HUNT

Who are the critters in our "neighborhood"? Learn about our resident wildlife—what they eat and where they live. **For children age 12 and under.**

AFTER SCHOOL ESCAPE

Thursdays, October 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 from 4:30-5:30 PM

Kids and their parents or caregivers together can enjoy a different, fun, hour-long outdoor activity each week. **For children in grades K through 5. No registration required.**

OCTOBER

Saturday, October 3 at 10:30 AM

FALL HARVEST

Autumn is a busy time for many animals. Discover the foods that are gathered by animals as they prepare for winter.

Saturday, October 10 at 10:00 AM

FUNGI WITH A FUN GAL

Fall is the best time of year to enjoy the beauty of wild mushrooms. Learn about local fungi with an indoor presentation and a guided outdoor fungus foray.

Saturday, October 10 at 10:30 AM

STORIES IN THE WOODS

Enjoy hearing a nature story, followed by a guided walk in the woods. **For children ages 3 to 7.**

Friday, October 16 at 6:30 PM

OWL PROWL

Learn about our local owls, and listen for their calls on a walk in the woods. Program sponsored by Friends of Reinstein to raise funds for purchasing new owl mounts. **Fee = \$4.00/person; Friends of Reinstein Woods members = \$2.00/person. For adults and children ages 8 and older.**

Saturday, October 17 at 10:30 AM

AUTUMN'S PEAK HIKE

Fall foliage is a blaze of color, from flaming oranges and reds to subtle yellows. Enjoy the beauty of autumn's trees on this guided walk.

Fall 2015 Programs

PLEASE NOTE: Registration is required for ALL programs unless otherwise indicated. For further information or to register, call Reinstein Woods at 716-683-5959.

Saturday, October 17 at 2:30 PM

BIRDING 101: CLASS #10

Learn how to identify birds that visit bird feeders in fall and winter and about what to feed them. Bring field guides and binoculars if you have them. **For adults and children ages 8 and older.**

Saturday, October 24 at 10:30 AM

INDOOR WORM COMPOSTING

Learn how to use red wiggler worms for composting your food scraps indoors during the cold months. **Starter kits = \$4.00; Friends of Reinstein Woods members = \$2.00.**

Saturday, October 24 at 2:00 PM

ANIMAL SUPERPOWERS

They may not be faster than a speeding bullet or more powerful than a locomotive, but many animals have abilities beyond those of humans. On this guided walk, you will learn about some of these amazing residents of the woods.

Tuesday, October 27 at 7:00 PM

FULL HUNTER'S MOON HIKE

Join us for a hike through the trails as we look for red fox, white-tailed deer and beaver preparing for winter. Bring binoculars if you have them.

Saturday, October 31 at 10:00 AM

SENSORY CELEBRATION OF THE ADA

Celebrate the 25th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) through outdoor and indoor sensory explorations. Learn about other accessible state facilities around Western New York. Artwork will be on display from the CHC Learning Center.

NOVEMBER

AFTER SCHOOL ESCAPE

Thursdays, November 5, 12 and 19 from 4:30-5:30 PM

Kids and their parents or caregivers together can enjoy a different, fun, hour-long outdoor activity each week. **For children in grades K through 5. No registration required.**

Saturday, November 7 at 10:30 AM

STORIES IN THE WOODS

Enjoy hearing a nature story, followed by a guided walk in the woods. **For children ages 3 to 7.**

Saturday, November 7 at 2:00 PM

PREHISTORIC REINSTEIN WOODS

Through all of Earth's disasters, certain animal and plant species have survived. Take a journey through time, and find out how far back some of them go.

Saturday, November 14 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM

AMERICA RECYCLES DAY AT REINSTEIN WOODS

Bring your recyclable items to Reinstein Woods for our recycling drive! We will accept the following items: rechargeable batteries, cell phones, #6 polystyrene (clean), bubble wrap and packing peanuts, personal care containers (cosmetic containers, shampoo/conditioner/body wash bottles, deodorant containers & toothpaste tubes. No glass bottles or aerosol containers and remove as much product as possible) and textiles (gently used clothing, shoes and bedding). Call 683-5959 for more information.

FRIENDS OF REINSTEIN WOODS EVENT

Saturday, November 14 from 5:00 to 8:00 PM

NATURE'S GATHERING: AN EVENING OF ART, WINE AND CHEESE

Enjoy a tasting of fine regional wines, cheese and hors d'oeuvres, and help support Friends of Reinstein Woods. Westerns New York artisans will be showcasing their nature-themed artwork, available for purchase. Tickets available at Reinstein Woods Environmental Education Center or online at www.reinsteinwoods.org.

Please note: This event will take place at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 2735 Union Road in Cheektowaga. For more information, visit www.reinsteinwoods.org or call Reinstein Woods at 716-683-5959.

Saturday, November 21 at 10:30 AM

OUTDOOR SKILLS

In this program, you will create rope from plants and learn how to build a survival shelter from natural materials. **For adults and children age 8 and older.**

Friday, November 27 at 1:00 PM

WHITE-TAIL DEER TALK AND WALK

Learn about how deer survive winter, plants that are deer resistant and the dangers of feeding wild deer. Indoor/ outdoor program.

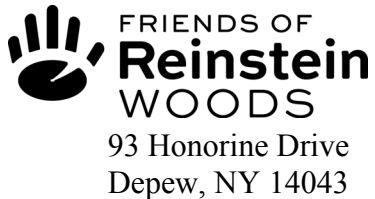
Saturday, November 28 at 10:30 AM

TURKEY STROLL

After Thanksgiving is a great time for a walk in the woods. Join us on a guided nature walk as we look for wild turkeys and the clues they leave behind.

ESTATE PLANNING?

Consider the Friends of Reinstein Woods when planning bequests in your estate papers. Help us to continue to share the beauty of Reinstein Woods with future generations. For more information, e-mail Reinsteinwoods@yahoo.com or call Friends of Reinstein at (716) 683-5959.



Non-profit org.
U.S. Postage
Paid
Depew, NY
Permit No.19