

The Lily Pad

The Newsletter of Friends of Reinstein Woods

Summer/Fall 2017



Share In Nature's Harmony

17th Annual Fall Festival: Explore the Great Outdoors!

Saturday, September 16, 2017

10 am - 4 pm

Bringing together the best of WNY's nature and environmental organizations for a day of outdoor exploration!

- **Exhibits**
- **Walks & Talks**
- **Kids' Activities**
- **Live Animals**
- **Food**
- **Music by Mama Earth**

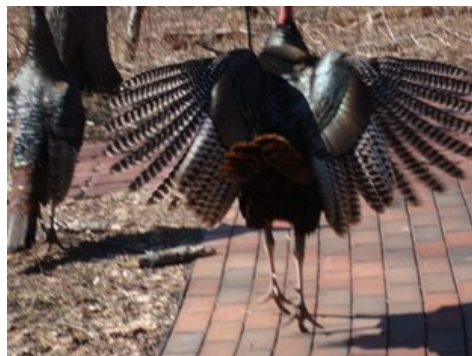
No registration required!

Check Reinsteinwoods.org for event updates or for more information call (716) 683-5959.



Fall Program Schedule Now Available

Registration is open for Reinstein Woods Fall programs. From "Passport to Play" to "Nature Vacation Adventure," you're sure to find a program you'll love! See Fall Program schedule in the back of this newsletter. To register or for details on any program, call (716) 683-5959.



*Family Nature Quest: Turkeys
Nov. 25*

Friends of Reinstein Board of Directors

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Thank you Miss Brittany!

Brittany Rowan, better known to children attending Kids in the Woods Summer Day Camp as "Miss Brittany," is moving on to a new career and is leaving Reinstein Woods at the end of August.

Brittany served as a naturalist intern and then as AmeriCorps volunteer at Reinstein Woods before becoming an Environmental Educator for Friends of Reinstein Woods. She developed and directed Reinstein Woods' popular summer day camp programs, growing the program from a handful of kids to more than 100 campers a year, with waiting lists for most weeks of camp!

Brittany also developed and coordinated the Day in the Life of the Buffalo River program, which annually connects hundreds of kids and their teachers to our local watershed through field activities.

When not busy educating children and adults, Brittany performed numerous other tasks in support of Friends of Reinstein Woods, from coordinating the Native Plant Sale to playing her violin at Nature's Gathering!

Fortunately, Brittany will remain in the Buffalo area and continue to volunteer at Reinstein Woods, sharing her extensive knowledge of birds and nature with others. Please join us in wishing Brittany a bright and successful future in her chosen career!



Brittany leading a Nature Walk with Campers

Thank You Volunteers

Volunteer Coordinator Ginger Wszalek has been out on medical leave and she recently sent this thank you note to volunteers:

Thank you to all the Friends and Reinstein Volunteers for your cards and gifts! It was very much appreciated during my treatments. Be back after Labor Day!

- Ginger & Mike Wszalek

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

Website:
Reinsteinwoods.org

Get Out There! A Message from the President

Summer is not officially over until the Autumn Equinox arrives at 4:02 p.m. on September 22. We know the days get shorter until the winter Solstice – but let's not think about the "s" word and just enjoy the upcoming palette of color that nature so easily paints for us!

Reinstein Woods will certainly be a hot spot this fall as activities abound to get us outdoors. Our annual Fall Festival is by far our most attended event and has something for all ages to enjoy. I encourage you to attend – it truly showcases Reinstein Woods and all it has to offer.

Friends members can tour the Erie County Saw mill (who knew we had one!) on Saturday September 30. Also, remember that our annual Friends of Reinstein Woods membership meeting is Tuesday, October 17 where you can meet board members and socialize with other members. If you are wondering how the Friends group interacts with NYSDEC both financially and in its day to day operations, this meeting will most likely answer your questions. Buffalo Audubon's Mark Carra will entertain as John J. Audubon. I encourage members to attend, and if you're not a member, you can join that evening.

Lastly, our annual art, wine & cheese show Nature's Gathering takes place Saturday, November 11 at Knights of Columbus on Union Road in Cheektowaga.

I would like to thank everyone for their generous contributions over the past year as the Friends closes its fiscal year in October. Whether you donated to an appeal, bought plants from the Native Plant Sale, or volunteered, you made a difference. I would also like to personally thank the board of directors, volunteers and community partners who attended meetings to begin the process of developing an updated strategic plan. This is an exciting process that will steer the future growth of Friends of Reinstein Woods. We will elaborate more on this plan at the annual membership meeting in October.



Hope to see you soon at the Woods!
Enjoy and Respect Nature,
Terry Boyle

Upcoming Member - Only Programs:

Tour of Erie County Saw Mill

Date: Saturday, September 30, 2017

Time: 10:30am – 12:30 PM

Place: Erie County Saw Mill

We will take a tour of the saw mill followed by a nature walk through Erie County Forest.

Registration is required, please call (716) 683-5959 to register or register online: <http://reinsteinwoods.org/join/members-programs/>. Not a member yet? You can join at the event.

Friends of Reinstein Annual Meeting

Date: Tuesday, October 17, 2017

Time: 6:00pm – 8:30 PM

Place: Reinstein Woods

Mingle with other Friends members for coffee and dessert, followed by a brief business meeting to highlight the year's accomplishments. Following the business meeting, Buffalo Audubon Society Naturalist Mark Carra will perform as "John James Audubon"

Registration is required, please call (716) 683-5959 to register or register online: <http://reinsteinwoods.org/join/members-programs/>. Not a member yet? You can join at the event.

Giving News

We would like to share some news with all members of Friends of Reinstein Woods! Many of you may already know of this news, and some of its impacts are already being seen around the preserve, but we feel it deserves some special coverage.

In 2015, a member of the Friends of Reinstein Woods graciously left us a large and unexpected gift as part of her estate. Dr. Carolyn Tasa was a Friends member since 2009. She worked in our community as a professor of Anthropology and Psychology at ECC for several years. She was a lover of animals and nature, and her special gift to us has and will allow us to further our mission.

This generous gift came as quite a surprise. The Friends of Reinstein Woods board of directors met to decide how best to use these funds that were given to us all. We felt so grateful to know that another person loved this place as much as we all do, and she took action on that feeling to plan this extraordinary gift.

Some of the improvements that have been made with Carolyn's gift include:

- Acquiring new equipment for the "Day in the Life of the Buffalo River," a field experience for more than 300 students annually,
 - Acquiring new taxidermy mounts, and protect existing mounts from moth infestations with custom-built enclosures for the mounts most frequently used in education programs,
 - Providing public Wifi for visitors and for use in programs, such as the recently held "Nature Tech" spring break series for kids,
 - Improving our education programs by purchasing insect nets, skulls, and a display board,
 - Increasing our operational efficiency through new shelving units to hold snowshoes and education program supplies, an updated computer for the office manager and a laptop for the naturalist interns, and
- Replacing a broken refrigerator and freezer to store items used for Friends' events and fundraisers.

The donation is also supporting our current strategic planning process, enabling us to strengthen the long-term health of the organization. The remaining majority of the gift has been invested wisely by our finance committee to provide future income for the Friends and support future needs.

If you would like more information about making a planned gift to Reinstein Woods, please contact Stefanie Ecker at (716) 432-0397. Gifts do not have to be large to be meaningful, and a planned gift can be a great option for many of us.

-Stefanie Ecker, VP of Friends of Reinstein Woods



Reinstein's bear mount on display in its new case at the Erie Co. Fair

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!



Fall 2017 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 2 at 10:00 AM

FOREST BATHING

Start your holiday weekend off with the latest- and oldest- in health trends. Based on the Japanese practice of *shinrin-yoku*, this walk will focus on the sights, sounds and smells of the forest to induce relaxation while easing anxiety and stress. **

Saturday, September 2 at 11:00 AM

WOODS WALK: NATURE GUIDE'S CHOICE

Join a guided nature walk through the woods. **No registration required.**

Saturday, September 2 at 2:00 PM

POISONOUS PLANTS IN YOUR BACKYARD

Some plants that grow in your yard or garden can be toxic if you eat the wrong part or prepare them the wrong way. Learn about these common plants, and about some poisonous plants and animals here at Reinstein Woods. **For adults and children ages 12 and older.** **

Wednesday, September 6 at 8:00 PM

FAMILY FULL MOON ADVENTURE

Enjoy the light of the moon as we search for critters of the night while following a nocturnal scavenger hunt. **

Saturday, September 9 at 10:00 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, September 9 at 2:30 PM

BIRDWATCHING WALK

Take a guided walk to search for seasonal birds. Bring binoculars if you have them. **

Saturday, September 23 at 10:00 AM

INTRODUCTION TO GEO-CACHING

You will learn how to use a handheld Global Positioning System (GPS) unit, then search for hidden clues to solve nature mysteries. **For adults and children ages 8 and older.** **

Saturday, September 30 at 10:30 AM

FAMILY NATURE QUEST: TURTLES

Explore the world of turtles at Reinstein Woods, and meet our captive wood and painted turtles. **

Saturday, September 30 at 2:30 PM

BIRDING 101: CLASS #9

Learn how to identify the different raptors (birds of prey) found in Reinstein Woods. **For adults and children ages 8 and older.** **

OCTOBER

AFTER SCHOOL ESCAPE

Thursdays, October 5, 12, 19 and 26 from 4:30 to 5:30 PM

Together, kids and their parents or caregivers can enjoy a different, fun, hour-long outdoor activity each week. **For chil-**

Saturday, October 7 at 11:00 AM

WOODS WALK: NATURE GUIDE'S CHOICE

Join a guided nature walk through the woods. **No registration required.**

Wednesday, October 11 at 6:30 PM

REINSTEIN WOODS THROUGH THE YEARS

Join former intern Jerry Krajna to learn about the history of Reinstein Woods, as well as his own perspective of the changes over the past 10 years. **

17TH ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL

Saturday, September 16, 2017 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.**

Fall 2017 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.

TEACHERS IN NATURE:

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERIES

4:00 to 7:00 PM each date

October 11:	Schoolyard Habitat
October 18:	Aquatic WILD
November 8:	STEM in the Schoolyard
November 15:	Flying WILD
December 6:	Classroom Citizen Science
December 13:	Growing Up WILD

Sign up for one or more workshops to learn how to connect your students to nature! CTLE credit hours may be available for select programs. **

Saturday, October 14 at 10:30 AM

FUN GUY'S GUIDE TO FUNGI

Our knowledge of fungi has *mushroom* for improvement to say the *yeast*. Come learn about these mysterious organisms with former intern Marcus Rosten and by the end we're sure you'll be *lichen* them! **

Saturday, October 14 from 1:00 to 3:30 PM

PASSPORT TO PLAY

Families can enjoy a woods walk and learn new nature play ideas to try at home. Participants will use their Passport to Play to guide them through several outdoor fall adventures. **

Saturday, October 21 at 10:30 AM

LEAF HUNT

Hunt for the perfect fall leaf and explore the many roles leaves play in nature on this guided walk. **

Saturday, October 21 at 11:00 AM

WOODS WALK: NATURE GUIDE'S CHOICE

Join a guided nature walk through the woods. **No registration required.**

Saturday, October 21 at 2:30 PM

BIRDING 101: CLASS #10

Learn which birds will be in the area for the winter season. **For adults and children ages 8 and older.** **

Saturday, October 28 at 10:00 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, October 28 at 2:00 PM

ALIENS!

Are there visitors from outer space in Reinstein Woods? No, just plants and animals introduced from other parts of the world. Join

a guided tour to meet some of these alien invaders. **

NOVEMBER

AFTER SCHOOL ESCAPE

Thursdays, November 2, 9, 16 and 30
from 4:30 to 5:30 PM

Together, kids and their parents or caregivers can enjoy a different, fun, hour-long outdoor activity each week. **For chil-**

Saturday, November 4 at 10:30 AM

RECYCLED CRAFTS:

BOOKS, BOXES, BOWS AND MORE

Get a jump on making gifts for mom, dad and grandparents with these recycled crafts. **For kids ages 7 to 12.** **

Saturday, November 4 at 11:00 AM

WOODS WALK: NATURE GUIDE'S CHOICE

Join a guided nature walk through the woods. **No registration required.**

FRIENDS OF REINSTEIN WOODS EVENT

Saturday, November 11 from 5:00 to 8:00 PM

NATURE'S GATHERING:

AN EVENING OF ART, WINE AND CHEESE

Sample fine regional wines and enjoy hors d'oeuvres, as you help support the Friends of Reinstein Woods. Western New York artisans will showcase their nature-themed artwork and specialty items, available for purchase. **Note: This event will take place at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 2735 Union Road in Cheektowaga.** Tickets available at Reinstein Woods or online at www.reinsteinwoods.org. For more information, call 716-683-5959.

Saturday, November 18 at 10:00 AM

NATURE VACATION ADVENTURE

Plan your next vacation as we journey through redwood forests, ocean reefs and other natural wonders in this slideshow presentation. **For adults only.** **

Saturday, November 18 at 11:00 AM

WOODS WALK: NATURE GUIDE'S CHOICE

Join a guided nature walk through the woods. **No registration required.** Saturday, November 25 at 2:30 PM

FAMILY NATURE QUEST: TURKEYS

Discover the secret world of turkeys as we search for wild birds and make turkey calls. **

Remember Reinstein in Your Will

Did you know that you can designate a percentage of your life insurance or 401k as a gift to Reinstein? Consider 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, contact Stefanie Ecker at (716) 432-0397 or stefanie.a.ecker@gmail.com.



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