

The Lily Pad



Fall 2019 Newsletter

Check out what's happening at Reinstein Woods this Fall!

Join us for the 19th Annual Fall Festival

Saturday, September 21, 2019

10 AM - 4 PM



Celebrate "Water" with a full day of nature fun, demonstrations, live animals, food, music and more! No registration required. A donation to Friends of Reinstein Woods is gratefully requested at the door to cover festival expenses. Special activities include a forest ranger drone demonstration, SPCA wildlife talks, and a performance by Mama Earth. Join us for all the fun:

- Interactive exhibits from local nature, environmental and historical organizations
- Pond Exploration Zone
- Scavenger hunt (win a prize!)
- Simulated fly fishing for kids
- Live animals
- Games and crafts
- Food for sale by Boy Scout Troop 500 and Yogurt Shack
- Face painting, costumed characters, door prize, and more!
- New exhibitors including the Buffalo Bonsai Club and Dare to Repair Cafes
- Sponsored by M&T Bank

M&T Bank

Visit www.reinsteinwoods.org for a full list of exhibitors and additional information.

Volunteer Spotlight: Buffalo Stars

In May, the Buffalo Stars Youth Hockey Organization visited Reinstein Woods to offer their volunteer services and protect natural habitats.

A group of 20 volunteers, comprised of team members, parents, and coaches, repaired the fencing on one of the deer exclosures. This helps protect plants and trees from deer so the plants are able to grow. They also planted pussywillows and a white oak tree at a site that had formerly been taken over by common reed (*Phragmites australis*), an invasive plant. Native species help promote a healthy ecosystem for the wildlife at Reinstein Woods.

The volunteers collected worms for Clover and Clementine, two rescue turtles that live at Reinstein Woods, to finish their day. The 20 volunteers dedicated a total of 60 hours of service to Reinstein Woods to protect and promote the growth of native plants and wildlife.

We appreciate the Buffalo Stars help with these projects and enjoyed the opportunity to educate these young minds about the importance of native habitats.

If your organization is interested in a day of service, please contact Reinstein Woods at 716-683-5959. We would love to have your help in the woods!



UPCOMING MEMBER ONLY PROGRAMS

Registration is required for member events. please call (716) 683-5959 to register.

- **AUTUMN CHAIRLIFT RIDE AT HOLIDAY VALLEY - SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5 11 AM - 2 PM**

Join fellow Friends of Reinstein Woods members as we take the chairlift up to Spruce Lake to enjoy the fall foliage in Ellicottville. Once at the top we will take a leisurely hike around McCarty Hill State Forest. Please bring a snack to eat.

- **ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING AT REINSTEIN WOODS - TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22 6 PM - 8:30 PM**

Mingle with Friends members for coffee and dessert, followed by a brief business meeting to highlight the years accomplishments. Afterwards, there will be a special guest speaker, Marty Jacobs, who will share the history of the Seneca's use of plants for medicine and food.



Volunteers Honored at Annual Picnic

About 40 volunteers gathered in July for fellowship and good food at the annual volunteer picnic. Mary Hughes received the Al Schick Volunteer Appreciation Award for the variety of volunteer service she has provided at the woods, including nature guide, outreach volunteer, greeter, and other roles. Dan Lipp received the Peter Losi Memorial Award for his tireless efforts to help us with our observational beehive. Other volunteers received service awards for one, five, and ten years of service.

We appreciate all of the hard work and dedication from our volunteers. Your efforts make Reinstein Woods such a special place for everyone to connect with nature.

Interested in becoming a volunteer? Learn more at www.reinsteinwoods.org or call (716) 683-5959.



Reinstein Woods and Cheektowaga Partner on Our Shared Environment



Friends of Reinstein Woods has partnered with the Town of Cheektowaga Youth Conservation Corps to battle invasive plants and educate the public about invasive species. Margaret Jividen, a Student Conservation Association volunteer, trained the Conservation Corps members to identify and map common reed (*Phragmites australis*) and Japanese knotweed (*Reynoutria japonica*), two invasive plants found in Stiglmeier Park and Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve. These plants grow quickly and eventually choke out native species.

The Cheektowaga Conservation Corps spent a week mapping sites that are overgrown with the invasive plants at Stiglmeier Park. The data will be used to determine what resources will be needed to address these plants and inform park visitors about these issues.

“You realize how prevalent it is when you’re actually walking through it and realizing how massive it is,” said Andrew Samer who works with the Town of Cheektowaga Conservation Corps.

The group focused on the Reinstien Woods and Stiglmeier Park border where the growth has been especially bad. Samer noticed that the growth has gotten worse in Stiglmeier Park in the past few years when comparing satellite images of the area.

Ron Jerozal, a Conservation Corps member, seems hopeful about the project. He and the other Conservation Corps members visited Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve to see the results of the treatment and removal of common reed and Japanese knotweed that has taken place at multiple sites throughout the preserve over the past four years.

“It’s is nice to know if we map [these plants] and have a plan [for removal] what we would be able to accomplish,” said Jerozal.

Reinstein Woods has effectively treated many Phragmites stands throughout the preserve thanks to a 2015 grant from the New York Power Authority. A dedicated group of volunteers known as the Phragmites Strike Team monitors many of the treated sites and removes any regrowth. These efforts have facilitated the resurgence of native wetland plants that are more beneficial to wildlife.

This experience has been beneficial for both Reinstein Woods and the Town of Cheektowaga Youth Conservation Corps. The partnership increases awareness of the issue threatening these habitats and provides hands on experience for the Conservation Corps members. Brad Agen, Program Director of the Conservation Corps, says this program is a great way to show the kids alternate career paths while protecting the diverse ecosystems at Reinstein Woods and Stiglmeier Park.

Moonlit Forest Bathing. Treasure Hunts. Natural Products Workshops. Costume Creations.

Be sure to check out these and the many other unique programs offered at Reinstein Woods this fall. There is a program to excite everyone in the family this fall. See the full program schedule and register today!

Special thank you to **Luann Ream** for her generous donation of animal furs to be used for education programs. Also, thank you to **Kathy Verro** for donating bird seed to the Education Center. We appreciate your generosity!

Donated Sculpture Popular for “Selfies”



If you’ve visited Reinstein Woods this summer, you may have noticed people taking photos of themselves with a ten-foot tall, 500-pound metal “flower garden” in the parking lot. “Steel Magnolias” is a sculpture by artist Bryan Lago, generously donated to Reinstein Woods by former NYS Assemblyman Paul Tokasz and his wife, Sylvia Tokasz.

The sculpture was originally purchased by the Tokasz family at the 2003 “Art on Wheels” auction to benefit the Burchfield Penney Art Center and the Materials Re-use Project. The auction involved used cars being transformed into “mobile art” pieces by a variety of artists, while other artists created wheel-themed sculptures using recycled materials. The pieces were to be placed outside “cultural institutions and heritage sites” in the Buffalo-Niagara region.

The auction program stated that Steel Magnolias “reflects some of the scenes painted by Charles E. Burchfield to represent growth, renewal, and the regeneration of the spirit.” The Tokasz family indicated that the metal in the sculpture came from industrial equipment that was no longer in use in Western New York, thus recycling items like old fans and road fixing machines into a thing of beauty.

Reinstein Woods would like to contact Bryan Lago to learn more about his creation. If anyone has any information about the artist, please call (716) 683-5959.

WHAT ARE THOSE STICKY THINGS HANGING IN THE WOODS?

This summer you may have noticed a sticky trap hanging along the trails at Reinstein Woods. The New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets is monitoring for the invasive European cherry fruit fly (*Rhagoletis cerasi*). This fruit fly has been found in Niagara and Orleans Counties and can harm many kinds of cherry trees. Fortunately, thus far no flies have been detected at Reinstein Woods. To learn more about this and other invasive plants and animals, visit the Western New York Partnership for Invasive Species Management (WNY PRISM). (Wnyprism.org)

VISITING ANOTHER NATURE OR ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER? CHECK FOR YOUR DISCOUNT



Friends of Reinstein Woods is a member of the Association of Nature Center Administrators (ANCA) Reciprocal Network. As a member of Friends of Reinstein Woods, you are entitled to a free or discounted admission and/or gift store and program purchases at more than 180 centers nationwide that participate in the ANCA program. To view a list of participating centers, visit ANCA’s website. (Natctr.org)

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO HAS DONATED TO FRIENDS OF REINSTEIN WOODS IN 2019!

Your support helps individuals explore, discover, and connect with nature.

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|---|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|
| Amos Acree | Esther Clabeaux | Lucy and Theresa Lorczaak | Mary Rera |
| Adventure Landing | Dave & Lauren Copeland | Mary Losi | Christopher Riley |
| Air & Waste Management Association | Peter & Teresa Corrigan | JoAnn Macuiba | Kristen Rosenburg |
| Tom & Maryann Alberalla | Datasure 24 | Abby Mandris | RPM Raceway |
| Alrbight-Knox Art Gallery | Jane Dietz | Edward & Kate Martin | Russell's Steaks, Chops & More |
| Anderson's Frozen Custard | Stefanie Ecker | Denise Maziarz | Sheila Elizabeth Schascheck |
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| Valerie Antos | Erie Metro Credit Union | Mary Miechowicz | Michele Setzer |
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| Bellevue Hotel | Friends of Grand Island Library | Ann Murphy | Sheldon Soman |
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| Bert's Bikes and Fitness | Mike and Carol Gettings | Dennis & Sandy Needham | Tom Stoll |
| Jim Bieniek | Girl Scouts Troop 385 | Kathryn Neeson | Vinod & Constance Suchak |
| Ann & Dennis Bischof | Jason Goetz | Barbara Niehus | Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural |
| Bob-O-Link | Donald Gordon | Jeremy & Sally OczeK | National Historic Site |
| Dave & Kathy Boice | Judy Gruchy | Don & Jane Ogilvie | James & Susan Tilley |
| Meaghan Boice-Green & Scott Green | Elaine Hansen | Victoria Okerlund | Paul & Sylvia Tokasz |
| Terry Boyle | Ann Harrison | Frances Olans | Louise Tomczak |
| Broadway Driving Range and Miniature Golf | Herschell Carrousel Factory Museum | Old Fort Niagara | Jeffrey Townsend |
| Jacqueline Brodfuehrer | Katherine Hilliman | Pamela O'Rourke | Tronconi, Segarra, & Associates |
| Sharon Brouillard | Mary Holtz | Dolores Palczewski | United Way of Greater Rochester |
| Peter & Cheryl Buechi | Mary Hughes | Parkside Cupcakes | Kathy Verro |
| Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens | Lara Hutson | Wendy Paterson | Kate Wagner |
| Buffalo Foam Dart League | Mary Jane Jarnot | Susan Petherick | Katherine Weber |
| Buffalo Harbor Cruises - Miss Buffalo | JonnyC's NY Deli | Gerald Phillips | Wild Birds Unlimited |
| Buffalo History Museum | Eleanor Jusiak | Suzanne Pilon | John Wilton |
| Buffalo Museum of Science | Dennis & Rebecca Kaniecki | Praxair - Matching Gift | Yogurt Shack |
| Paul & Wanda Bukowski | David & Carolyn Karb | Vincent & Robynn Prestia | Heidi Zanelli |
| Burchfield Penney Art Center | Diane Karosik | Patricia Ratka | <u>In memory of longtime volunteer</u> |
| Campobello's Cucina Italiana | David Kennedy | Charles Rauch | <u>Art Grupp</u> |
| Capelli's | Lasertron | Linda Ray | Kenneth & Edith Belter |
| Shannon Cervi | Tom & Sue Lawson | Luann Ream | Kevin O'Grady |
| Cheesy Chick | Amanda Lippes | Julie Reinstein & Jo Laine White | Colleen Scroczyński |
| Lyn Chimera | | | Sandra Seeley |
| Amber Ciesielski | | | |

As of August 20, 2019

THANK YOU TO OUR SUMMER PARTNERS!

Thank you to everyone who helped make **Outdoors Day** such a success! Special thank you to everyone who partnered with us on that day including: Town of Amherst & Town of Cheektowaga Youth & Recreation Departments, Cheektowaga Youth Engaged in Service (YES), DEC Forest Ranger Kennedy, Erie County Park Rangers, Girl Scout Troop 30385, New York State Parks Interpretive Program Office, Niagara Frontier Search and Rescue Team, and all of our wonderful volunteers!

We would also like to thank everyone who made the first **Artisan Market** such an enjoyable day! Special thanks to all the wonderful vendors, **Financial Trust Federal Credit Union**, **DataSure24**, **Tronconi Segarra & Associates**, **Erie Metro Federal Credit Union**, the Buffalo Ukulele Club, Nussbaumer & Clarke, Inc., Friends of Reinstein Woods Board of Directors, the hardworking volunteers, and everyone who came out to support Reinstein Woods!

WE COULD NOT HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU!



Fall 2019 Program Schedule

****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 7 at 10:00 AM

TRAIL STEWARD SATURDAY

Volunteer to help keep Reinstein Woods' trails healthy and clean! We'll remove invasive plants, pick up trash and do whatever else is needed. **

Saturday, September 7 at 11:00 AM

WOODS WALK: NATURE GUIDE'S CHOICE

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

Thursday, September 12 at 7:30 PM

MOONLIT FOREST BATHING

Discover the latest—and oldest—in health trends. This walk will focus on the sights, sounds, and smells of the forest to induce relaxation and ease stress. **

Saturday, September 14 at 10:00 AM

OUTDOOR SKILLS

In this program, you will build an emergency shelter from natural materials and practice navigation and fire building techniques. **For adults and children age 8 and older.** **

Wednesday, September 18 at 10:00 AM

SENIOR STROLL

Experience nature at your own pace, and enjoy a leisurely guided walk through the woods. **For adults only.** **

19TH ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL

**Saturday, September 21, 2019
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.**

Thursday, September 26 from 4:00 to 7:00 PM

EDUCATOR WORKSHOP: GROWING UP WILD

This program provides early childhood educators with an activity guide featuring 27 field-tested, hands-on, nature based activities for indoor and outdoor fun. Activities incorporate art, music, reading, math and more. 3 CTLE Hours provided. **For educators of students ages 3 to 7.** **

Saturday, September 28 at 10:00 AM

TREE ID AND FOREST PEST WALK

Learn basic tree identification, signs of insect infestation and more. **For adults and children ages 12 and older.** **

Saturday, September 28 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. **

OCTOBER

Saturday, October 5 at 10:00 AM

THE GREAT REINSTEIN WOODS TREASURE HUNT

Embark on a nature play adventure with a self-guided treasure hunt. Follow the map to find your own hidden treasure and look for animals along the way! **For children ages 5 to 10.** **

Saturday, October 5 at 11:00 AM

WOODS WALK: NATURE GUIDE'S CHOICE

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

Saturday, October 5 at 2:00 PM

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. **For adults and children ages 10 and older.** **

**** NOTE: Registration is required for ALL programs unless otherwise indicated; call 716-683-5959.**

Wednesday, October 9 from 4:30 to 5:30 PM

WILD WEDNESDAY

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

Saturday, October 12 at 10:30 AM

NATURAL PRODUCTS WORKSHOP PART 1: GREEN CLEANING

Learn to make natural cleaning products for your home and how to select safer products for cleaning your body. Make your own natural cleaner to take home. **Materials fee: \$5/\$3 for Friends members. ****

Saturday, October 12 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. ****

Wednesday, October 16 at 10:00 AM

SENIOR STROLL

Experience nature at your own pace, and enjoy a leisurely guided walk through the woods. **For adults only. ****

Thursday, October 17 from 4:00 to 7:00 PM

EDUCATOR WORKSHOP: PROJECT WILD

Project WILD is an award-winning program to help teachers use wildlife to teach a variety of subjects, including math, English language arts, and more. Participants receive a guide with more than 100 lesson plans. 3 CTLE Hours provided. **For educators of students in grades K to 12. ****

Saturday, October 19 at 10:00 AM

AUTUMN COLORS

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. ******

Saturday, October 19 at 11:00 AM

WOODS WALK: NATURE GUIDE'S CHOICE

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

Saturday, October 26 at 10:00 AM

COSTUME-MAKING WORKSHOP

Join us to create your own Halloween costume! Some basic supplies will be provided, but you are encouraged to bring your own materials. ******

Saturday, October 26 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. ****

NOVEMBER

Saturday, November 2 at 10:00 AM

SANCTUARY STROLL

Curious about what's in the sanctuary portion of Reinstein Woods? Take a guided tour to find out! **For adults only. ****

Saturday, November 2 at 11:00 AM

WOODS WALK: NATURE GUIDE'S CHOICE

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

Saturday, November 9 at 10:30 AM

FAMILY NATURE QUEST: ANIMAL SIGNS

Use your science senses to search for clues left by local wildlife. ******

Wednesday, November 13, from 4:30 to 5:30 PM

WILD WEDNESDAY

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

Saturday, November 16 at 10:30 AM

NATURAL PRODUCTS WORKSHOP PART 2: PERSONAL CARE

Learn to make natural personal care products and how to make personal care choices that are better for the environment. Make your own lip balm or deodorant to take home. **Materials fee: \$5/\$3 for Friends members. ****

Saturday, November 16 at 11:00 AM

WOODS WALK: NATURE GUIDE'S CHOICE

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

Wednesday, November 20 at 10:00 AM

SENIOR STROLL

Experience nature at your own pace, and enjoy a leisurely guided walk through the woods. **For adults only. ****

Saturday, November 23 at 1:30 PM

THANKSGIVING CENTERPIECE WORKSHOP

Learn tips for plant identification while creating a fall-themed centerpiece. **Materials fee: \$10/\$7 for Friends members. ****

Saturday, November 30 at 10:00 AM

EXPLORE HIDDEN GEMS OF NATURE

Have you ever visited Birdsong Parklands, Westwood Park, Lockport Nature Trail, or other hidden gems? Take a virtual walk to local parks and natural areas in this slideshow presentation. **For adults and children age 8 and older. ****

Remember Reinstein

You can plant the seeds to ensure future generations have the same opportunity to enjoy nature. When you remember Reinstein in your will or designate a portion of your retirement plan to go to Reinstein Woods, you leave your legacy to respect nature forever. Each gift, no matter the size, transforms the lives of countless individuals and provides opportunities for everyone to share in nature's harmony. To start the conversation, please contact Hanna O'Neill at (716) 683-5959 or hanna@reinsteinwoods.org. You can also learn more at www.reinsteinwoods.org/donate/planned-giving/

Reinstein Woods Contact Information



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Department of
Environmental
Conservation

Reinstein Woods Environmental Education Center
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