Long, warm days are what summer is made of. Lounging in the sun, counting the clouds, sipping lemonade, hiking through the woods, and splashing in the pool: a few favorite ways to explore & enjoy summer in WNY.

At Reinstein Woods, we are anxiously anticipating the return of our larger events like Get Outdoors & Get Together Day and our 2nd Artisan Market. We can't wait to inspire someone to try a new outdoor activity and share local artists' works.

We are excited to hear the laughter of our Kids In The Woods summer campers and welcome new faces to our trails. Let's make the most of the sunshine!
Hello Friends,

It seems like yesterday that I was writing up a "welcome to spring" article and here I am saying welcome to summer! The transition at Reinstein Woods from spring to summer is the most incredible transition for us to enjoy. Many area schools are slated to visit Reinstein Woods throughout the spring, with our summer day camp program starting right after school ends. I remain humbled by the continued support for our organization by members and community members, which makes these programs possible.

As we move toward summer, there is something for everyone to enjoy! On Friday, June 3, join us at Nickel City BrewZ for a happy hour fundraiser. From 7 to 10 p.m., enjoy live music, buy food from the Great Aussie Bites food truck, and enter to win a 50/50 raffle. The bar will donate a portion of draft sales to our organization. Prior to the event, from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., yours truly will be leading a guided tour at Reinstein Woods! Call 716-683-5959 to register for the tour. I always enjoy meeting the community and sharing my knowledge of the preserve.

Our “Get Outdoors & Get Together Day” on Saturday, June 11 is a family-friendly event that will have many outdoor activities and a pop-up plant sale & mini-market. Try a new activity and get your fresh veggies and native plants. Lastly, we’ll be holding an Artisan Market on Saturday July 16, including a delicious chicken BBQ. Be sure to pre-order your BBQ dinner by JULY 1, then support local craftspeople on Buffalo’s 716 Day!

Keep reading for more information about these events and our other summer programs. I hope to meet you at these events!

Best regards – respect and enjoy nature,
Terrence Boyle, President

WNY Hiking Challenge

May 1, 2022- November 19, 2022

Friends of Reinstein Woods is excited to be one of three beneficiaries for this summer’s WNY Hiking Challenge, created to get people out on the many beautiful & unique trails in WNY. Hike 20 out of 32 WNY treasures to earn a finisher number, patch, sticker, and bragging rights!

The WNY Hiking Challenge will give 100% of profits to Reinstein Woods and two other organizations. To register for the Challenge, visit https://outsidechronicles.com/summer or follow the QR code below.

New Member Hike

SAVE THE DATE!

Have you joined Friends of Reinstein Woods since the pandemic started? Join Friends President, Terry Boyle, on a guided walk through Reinstein Woods. Learn about the woods and meet other new members!

Saturday, August 20, 2022 10am

Hike will be about 1-1.5 hours long.

Registration required. Call 716-683-5959 to reserve your spot. (New members only please.)
Welcome to the Family!

Marcus Rosten: Environmental Educator

As a Cheektowaga native my love for nature was instilled at an early age thanks to weekly nature walks with my grandmother at Stiglmeier Park and summers spent camping at Allegany State Park with my family. This inspired me to pursue a career outdoors and earn a degree in Environmental Education and Interpretation at the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry. Since then, I’ve served as an interpretive park ranger in our national parks and forests, led stewardship projects with local non-profit organizations, and worked as a wildlife technician conducting wildlife surveys, managing habitats, and monitoring invasive species for state and federal agencies. I am excited to be an Environmental Educator back home at Reinstein Woods, where I served as an intern in 2016!

When I'm not in the Woods, I can be found birding, skiing, kayaking along the Niagara River, or singing with the Buffalo Philharmonic Chorus. I hope to see you at Reinstein Woods!

Member Highlight: Mary Jo Stock

After receiving her Bachelor's degree from Buffalo State College, Mary Jo was a school teacher in NYC for 15 years. Mary Jo grew up in Depew just minutes away from Reinstein Woods with her parents, four brothers and sister. While her mother, Margaret, was from Brooklyn, her father, Larry, was a Depew native. Her mother became affiliated with the Historical Society of Depew and became friends with Dr. Reinstein and Julia Reinstein through Julia's participation in the Historical Society of Cheektowaga.

Now 77 years old, Mary Jo recalls meeting the Reinsteins in 1955, when she was ten years old. She remembers when the beavers were introduced to the land and made frequent visits to the woods.

Mary Jo often walks the woods and refers to it as her spiritual place. She has a special tree she likes to pray at. Her love of nature developed throughout her childhood. She fondly recalls having cookies and ginger ale with her grandma, who owned a quarry. On the quarry there was a body of water filled with carp & ducks. She credits that time with her grandparents at the quarry and growing up by Reinstein Woods as part of the reason she learned how nature balanced each other, and the reason she got to love nature. Thank you for letting us be a part of your story, Mary Jo!
GET OUTDOORS & GET TOGETHER DAY

SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 2022
10AM-2PM

GEOCACHING, NATURE WALKS, ORIENTEERING, DRONE DEMO, BIRDING FOR BEGINNERS, FACE PAINTING, AND MORE!

Visit to reinsteinwoods.org for more information!

POP-UP PLANT SALE & MINI-MARKET
Native plants, rain barrels, local honey & organic veggies for sale!

11am-2pm Polish Villa II Food Truck
1pm Native Plant Talk by CW Native Plant Farm

Art Showcase by People Inc. & Cradle Beach
WIN a Canon EOS Rebel with accessories ($722 value) & a handmade birdhouse!

Event Sponsored by:

[Logos of People Inc., HomeLight, and We CLEAN]
**PLEASE NOTE: Registration is required for ALL programs unless otherwise indicated.**

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.

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### JUNE

**Friday, June 3 at 7:00 PM**  
**ADVANCED TREE ID**  
Are you looking to expand your knowledge of trees? Join us on a walk to enjoy our less-common tree species and learn tips to identify them. **

**Saturday, June 4 at 10:00 AM**  
**LAND BEFORE TIME**  
Join us for a guided tour of the geology of Western New York and the changes this region has gone through. **For adults and children ages 8 and older.** **

**Saturday, June 4 at 1:00 PM**  
**WOODS WALK: FROGS AND THEIR FRIENDS**  
Learn which frogs live here and where they live. **No registration required.**

**Wednesday, June 8 at 4:30 PM**  
**WILD WEDNESDAY**  
Together, kids and their caregivers can enjoy a fun hour-long outdoor activity. **For children in grades K–5.** **

**Thursdays, June 9–June 30 at Noon**  
**VIRTUAL SUSTAINABILITY LUNCH TALKS**  
Tired of high fuel prices? Find out how to move toward a fossil-fuel-free lifestyle! Each session provides local resources to help you make improvements, and maybe even save money along the way. Registration required; register online at reinsteinwoods.org/events.

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**Saturday, June 11 from 10:00 AM–2:00 PM**  
**GET OUTDOORS & GET TOGETHER DAY**  
Explore outdoor skills like archery, birdwatching, geocaching, and orienteering. Enjoy hikes, face painting, nature play stations, and more! Friends of Reinstein Woods will be having a Pop-Up Plant Sale & Mini-Market featuring native plants, organic vegetables, local honey, and a food truck. For more information, visit reinsteinwoods.org or call 716-683-5959. **No registration required for this free event.**

**Tuesday, June 14 at 8:30 PM**  
**FULL MOON WALK**  
Experience the woods at night by the light of the Full Strawberry Moon. **

**Saturday, June 18**  
**AMERICAN RED CROSS TRAINING**  
10:00 AM: Citizen Preparedness Training (Ages 14+)
1:00 PM: Pillowcase Project (Ages 8–10)
2:00 PM: Red Cross Ready (Ages 11–13)

Build confidence by learning simple steps you can take now, to help prepare and protect your family. This program is for Friends members, but non-members may call after June 3 to see if spots are still available. **

**Saturday, June 18 at 10:00 AM**  
**SUMMER FOREST BATHING**  
Join the latest—and oldest—in health trends. Focus on the sights, sounds, and smells of the forest to induce relaxation and ease stress. **

**Saturday, June 18 at 1:00 PM**  
**WOODS WALK: THE LONGEST DAY**  
What in the world is the summer solstice? Join a guided walk to learn about the longest day of the year. **No registration required.**
Saturday, June 25 at 10:00 AM
HEAT PUMP BASICS
If you currently heat with electricity, propane or oil, heat pumps can save you money! Learn about these systems and options to get your household off fossil fuels. Presented by PUSH Buffalo. **

Saturday, June 25 at 10:30 AM
FAMILY NATURE QUEST: WORLD OF THE POND
Join as we scoop in the pond to search for aquatic animals. **

Saturday, June 25 at 2:00 PM
ANIMAL SUPERPOWERS
Many animals have abilities beyond those of humans. On this guided walk, you will learn about some of these amazing residents of the woods. **

Saturday, July 2 at 10:00 AM
JEWELS OF THE SKY
On this guided walk, search for ebony jewelwings and tiger swallowtails as well as other dragonflies and butterflies that may be in flight. **

Saturday, July 2 at 1:00 PM
WOODS WALK: LIFE UNDER A LOG
Let’s look under the logs to find out what creatures like the dark and damp. No registration required.

Saturday, July 9 at 10:00 AM
SUMMER WILDFLOWERS
Search for seasonal wildflowers and learn about their uses and folklore. For adults and children ages 10 and older. **

Wednesday, July 13 at 10:00 AM
INSECT EXPLORATION WALK AT DANN LAKE PARK
Join us as we explore the pond and fields at Dann Lake Park to find the insects that call it home. **

Thursday, July 14 at 10:30 AM
FAIRY HOUSES AT AMHERST STATE PARK
Join a naturalist from Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve in creating a house to attract nature’s fairies. For children ages 5–10.

Tuesday, August 16 at 10:30 AM
CREEK CRITTERS AT AMHERST STATE PARK
Discover what amazing animals are lurking underwater in Ellicott Creek. For children ages 7–12. **

Saturday, August 27 at 10:00 AM
RESTORATION WALK
Learn how we’re transforming an area with invasive plants into a restored ecosystem, and tips for native plantings and invasive species removal. **
Artisan market

Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve

93 Honorine Drive Depew, NY 14043

Saturday, July 16, 2022
11am - 4pm
An artisan market featuring 20+ local vendors!

Give back for 716 Day by supporting local craftspeople.

BBQ dinners available for pre-sale until July 1st for $16.
Limited dinners available during the event.

Reinsteinwoods.org

Admission is free

$2 donation to support Reinstein Woods is appreciated.
Volunteers Needed!

We're in need of volunteers to help with the Artisan Market on shifts between 8am-5pm. Help set up, serve food, greet visitors at the Friends information table, direct traffic, take pictures and more! Indoor & outdoor opportunities available.

Please contact Vickie at 716-683-5959 ext. 210 or vickie.dymock@dec.ny.gov.

I ♥ My Park Day

Thank you to the 66 volunteers, including local Assemblywoman Monica Wallace and her staff, who planted 75 trees and shrubs, picked up 8 bags of litter, removed 7 bags of invasive plants, and spruced up two deer exclosures, the Nature Play Area and the Library in the Woods! We are so grateful for their efforts.

For ways to volunteer year-round, visit reinsteinwoods.org.

Black Birders Week Walk

Tuesday May 31st from 6-8pm

Celebrate diversity in outdoor spaces with a beginner bird walk led by environmental educator Marcus Rosten at Reinstein Woods for #BlackBirdersWeek 2022! We will be honoring the day's theme of #LearningToTakeFlight by exploring the basics of how to become a "birder" and looking for local birds on the preserve.

Binoculars will be available to use and all ages and abilities are welcome!

Registration required, call 716-683-5959.
Reinstein Woods will engage teachers and students in a new "Niagara River/Lake Erie (NRLE) Classrooms" program thanks to a $76,006 grant from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Great Lakes region Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) program. We will connect at least 10 teachers and 100 students in grades 4-12 to the Niagara River/Lake Erie (NRLE) watershed. School districts with high levels of economically disadvantaged students were targeted for participation, and ten teachers attended their first workshops and field trips in May.

Led by DEC, Buffalo Niagara Waterkeeper, and SUNY Fredonia's Institute for Research in Science Teaching, the program will increase the educators' understanding of environmental issues within the watershed. These teachers will form a network of NRLE Classrooms to encourage peer-to-peer conversations between teachers and students.

Students in NRLE Classrooms will enjoy both indoor and outdoor watershed learning during the 2022-2023 school year, including the "Day in the Life of the NRLE Watershed" hosted by Reinstein Woods.

### WHAT IS A HEAT PUMP? (And why should I care?)

Did you know your refrigerator is a heat pump? This same technology can heat and cool your home, while removing a source of air pollution from most homes! If you heat with electricity, propane or oil, heat pumps also can save you money. Learn about the benefits of these systems and incentives available for installing one at your house.

**Heat Pump Basics**

**Saturday, June 25 at 10 a.m.**

**Presented at Reinstein Woods by PUSH Buffalo**

Registration required; call 716-683-5959.

### Lunch & Learn: Virtual Sustainability Talks in June!

These noontime presentations will last about 30 minutes with 15-30 minutes for questions. Register for any or all at reinsteinwoods.org/events.

- **June 9:** Spark Change: How to Buy & Save with Renewable Electricity
- **June 16:** Get a Move On: Sustainable Transportation from A to Uber
- **June 23:** Climate is What We Eat: Food
- **June 30:** There's No Place Like Home: Heat & Cool Your Home Sustainably
Nature's Nurturers: Monthly Giving Program
Looking for a giving option that allows you to give all year long? Become a Nature's Nurturer! Our monthly giving program will offer convenience so you can easily support Reinstein Woods. Learn more at https://reinsteinwoods.org/monthly-giving/

Reinstein Stories and Member Highlight
Is there someone you think should be highlighted for their amazing volunteering? Do you know a member that is always inspired by Reinstein Woods? How has Reinstein Woods influenced your life? Please contact Vickie with your stories at Vickie.dymock@dec.ny.gov or 716-683-5959 ext. 210.

Planned Giving
Don't forget! You can make a lasting impact on Reinstein Woods and its programs by making a commitment through planned giving. Consider adding Friends of Reinstein Woods to your will or retirement plan.
(learn more at: https://reinsteinwoods.org/donate/planned-giving/)