

The Milepost



Quarterly Event Guide for the Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park

Fall 2009

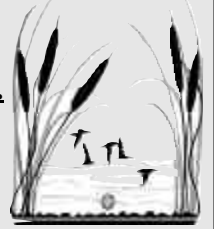
145 Mapleton Road, Princeton, NJ 08540

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Phone: Kingston Office (609) 924-5705 / Bull's Island Office (609) 397-2949 ~ Park Web Site: www.dandrcanal.com

FREE FALL 2009 PROGRAMS AT THE D & R CANAL STATE PARK

Programs are subject to cancellation due to inclement weather, lack of interest or illness. **Registration is REQUIRED for ALL PROGRAMS unless otherwise noted.** Call the Park Office at 609-924-5705 (*Kingston Office*) to register or do so online. Visit www.dandrcanal.com/programs.html for further details and to check for program updates, cancellations and/or additions. **All programs are FREE unless otherwise specified!**



SAVE THE DATE - THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12TH!

THE D & R CANAL: YESTERDAY, TODAY, TOMORROW



Join us at the **Prallsville Mill in Stockton** on a Thursday evening for food, conversation and a light-hearted presentation on the D & R Canal by **Richard Hunter** founder of the award winning research consulting firm, **Hunter Research**. Dr. Hunter, Trenton archaeologist, park user and D & R aficionado, will escort waterway worshippers on a brief, but not too serious, excursion that reveals the canal in all its past, present and future glory. **The evening fundraiser sponsored in part by the Delaware River Mill Society and the D & R Canal Watch will be the culminating event in recognition of the canal's 175th anniversary.** Mark your calendar and plan to come out for an enjoyable evening in support of the D & R! Time to be announced. More details to come so make sure to check our website for updates.

SEPTEMBER 2009

Sept. 12: Story of the D & R Canal: As part of the South Bound Brook Historic Preservation Advisory Commission's annual **Canal Days at the Abraham Staats House**, the D & R Canal State Park's Historian will offer a PowerPoint presentation **at 1:00 pm** focusing on the history of the canal. Both historic and modern photographs will be included to illuminate the waterway's past and present life. Come join us at the Abraham Staats House located at 17 Von Stueben Lane in South Bound Brook from 10 am to 4 pm for a full day of canal fun. **Registration is NOT required.**



Sept. 12: Paper Mania Exhibit and Sale at the Blackwells Mills Canal House: This popular event returns to the historic canal house on the corner of Blackwells Mills and Canal Road in Franklin Township. Historic local photographs, memorabilia, prints, old books, postcards, posters, sheet music and more will be on sale. **This event will be held from 10 - 4 pm. Registration is NOT required and admission is FREE!**



Sept. 12: Fall in the Fields: Join the park naturalist, Stephanie Fox, and our resident bird expert, Arlene Oley, in exploring the Six Mile Run Reservoir Site's field areas. Trails through goldrenrods and late asters will lead us into a hidden treasure in Somerset County. We will take easy hike exploring the late wildflowers, birds of fall and enjoy the scenic vistas offered in the preserved area of Franklin Township. **The program will begin at 10:00 am at the NJ Community Forestry parking area located at 625 Canal Road in Somerset.** This hike will last approximately 90 minutes and all ages are welcome. **Pre-registration IS REQUIRED. Weather permitting.**



Sept. 13: Canal Days in Rocky Hill: In celebration of the canal's 175th anniversary year, local historian and author Jeanette Muser will lead two informative Sunday afternoon walking tours of Victorian Rocky Hill focusing on the years 1834 - 1896. **Tours will begin at the Mary Jacobs Library parking lot located at 64 Washington Street in Rocky Hill at 1:00 and 3:00 pm. RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED!** To reserve your spot please email (RHHeritage1701@aol.com) or telephone (609.924.1802) **AFTER September 7th.**



Sept. 26: Hike the Trail at Bordentown & Duck Island: BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND! Join the naturalist and historian of D & R Canal State Park in a walk along the recently opened trail in the area previously referred to as "the abandoned section of the canal." This 3-mile stretch is the previously inaccessible section running from Lock 1 along the Crosswicks Creek in Bordentown northward on Duck Island past Lock 2 (now buried) and ending at Lambertson Road in Trenton. **The program will start at 10:00 am. Participants will meet at scenic overlook on Route 295 North.** All ages are welcome. **Pre-registration IS REQUIRED. Weather permitting.**



Sept. 30: Canoe/Kayak the Canal and the Delaware River: Join the **Friends for the Marsh** for a relaxing paddle on the D & R Canal and Delaware River. **This will be a 10-mile shuttleless paddle that begins at 9:00 am on the canal at Washington Crossing State Park and proceeds north to Firemens Eddy.** We'll then portage to the Delaware River and float downriver back to Washington Crossing. Bring lunch and beverages. **Registration is required so please contact leaders George & Leona Fluck at 609-259-3734 or Leona@pineypaddlers.com to confirm trip participation and logistics.** PARTICIPANTS MUST BRING THEIR OWN BOATS AS NONE WILL BE PROVIDED - RENTALS ARE NOT AVAILABLE IN THE AREA. **Check the park website for more fall canal paddles in October and November with the Friends for the Marsh!**



~ MORE FREE FALL 2009 PROGRAMS ~

OCTOBER 2009

Oct. 3: **Walk the Path in Lawrence Township:** Enjoy a morning walk along the canal with the D & R's Historian and visit two historic homes along the way - **The Port Mercer Canal House** and the **18th Century Brearley House**. The group will meet at the Port Mercer Canal House in Lawrence Township (4278 Quakerbridge Rd.) at **9:30 am** for a brief talk about the history of the D&R Canal and a tour of the Canal House. We'll then walk along the historic towpath to the Brearley House where the group will be treated to a tour of this restored 18th century home. Come join us for this 2.5 mile round trip walk back in time. **Pre-registration IS required. Weather permitting.**



Oct. 4: **Canoe/Kayak the Canal from Bulls Island to Lambertville:** Join the **Friends for the Marsh** for a relaxing paddle on the D & R Canal. The group will meet at **Bulls Island at 10:00 am** where we will begin the 8 mile paddle south to Firemen's Eddy, stopping for lunch at the Prallsville Mill site in Stockton. Warren "Philo" Elmer, naturalist and Sierra Club member, will join us on the trip and share the history of the D&R Canal as we paddle. Bring lunch and beverages. **Registration is required so please contact leaders George & Leona Fluck at 609-259-3734 or Leona@piney-paddlers.com to confirm trip participation and logistics.** PARTICIPANTS MUST BRING THEIR OWN BOATS AS NONE WILL BE PROVIDED - RENTALS ARE NOT AVAILABLE IN THE AREA. **Check the park website for more fall canal paddles in October and November with the Friends for the Marsh!**



Oct 10: **Fall Frolic For Children at the Blackwells Mills Canal House:** Kids bring your parents and come to the historic canal house for an afternoon of fun! There will be games to play and Halloween pumpkins to paint and "Unbel" the Canal House Magician will be there to perform magic just for you. This family friendly event will be held at the Blackwells Mills Canal House located on the corner of Blackwells Mills and Canal Road in Franklin Township **between 1:00 - 4:00 pm. Registration is NOT required and admission is FREE!**



Oct. 11: **6th Annual Mary Tanner Lecture ~ Featuring Richard W. Hunter & Howard L. Green:** The Lawrence Historical Society is pleased to invite the public to attend the 6th Annual Mary Tanner Lecture on **Sunday afternoon, October 11th at 2:00 pm. The program will be held in the Fireside Lounge at Rider University's Luedeke Student Center.** In celebration of the canal's 175th anniversary year, this program will be **"The History of the Delaware and Raritan Canal"** by co-presenters **Richard Hunter and Howard Green.** Since it's initial planning in the 1830s, the canal has played a vital role in New Jersey and American history, serving as a major transportation route for freight, a safe haven to transport troops during the World Wars and as an environmental asset as a water source and park. Hunter and Green will address the historical development and use of the canal as well as touch upon the future of this unique working historical landmark. **For directions and further information please contact the Lawrence Historical Society at (609) 895-1728.**

Oct. 17: **Fall Foliage Walk ~ From Nursery to Canal:** Enjoy a round-trip walk with the D & R's historian leading from the main office at Kingston to the canal towpath and the Kingston Canal House. **Participants will meet at the Kingston office located at 145 Mapleton Road at 1:00 pm for a leisurely 2-mile round trip walk.** The group will proceed from the headquarters through a portion of the Mapleton Preserve (the former Princeton Nursery site) towards the canal towpath and the Kingston Canal House before turning back. With any luck, the fall foliage will be in full display so come enjoy an afternoon outdoors while burning a few calories and learning a bit about the historic resources of the D & R Canal State Park! **Pre-registration IS REQUIRED. Weather permitting.**



Nov 7: **Walk the Path in Lawrence Township:** Enjoy a morning walk along the canal with the D & R's Historian and visit two historic homes along the way - **The Port Mercer Canal House** and the **18th Century Brearley House**. The group will meet at the Port Mercer Canal House in Lawrence Township (4278 Quakerbridge Rd.) at **9:30 am** for a brief talk about the history of the D&R Canal and a tour of the Canal House. We'll then walk along the historic towpath to the Brearley House where the group will be treated to a tour of this restored 18th century home. Come join us for this 2.5 mile round trip walk back in time. **Pre-registration IS required. Weather permitting.**



Nov. 7: **Natives of New Jersey and the Importance of Biodiversity:** Robert Wells, Kingston resident and Associate Director of Arboriculture Outreach of the Morris Arboretum, will be at the old Princeton Nursery headquarters located at 145 Mapleton Road in Princeton (now the Kingston office for the D & R Canal State Park) to discuss NJ native plants and the importance of biodiversity. The presentation will last approximately 45 minutes. **Time to be announced (check website for updates).** Afterwards visitor are encouraged to explore the trails in the Mapleton Preserve. **Registration is NOT required and admission is FREE!**

Nov. 14: **Kingston Loop Trail:** Join the naturalist and historian of Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park in a walk along the loop trail system in Kingston, NJ. The trail leads through the historic D & R Canal State Park, Mapleton Preserve (former site of Princeton Nurseries), Cook Natural Area and Middlesex County Open Space Park, Heathcote Meadow Preserve and is approximately 3.5 miles along mostly dirt/gravel pathways and is along flat terrain. **The program will start at 10:00 am.** Participants will meet at the Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park's Kingston Office located at 145 Mapleton Road. **Pre-registration IS REQUIRED. Weather permitting.**



Nov. 14: **Holiday Sale at the Blackwells Mills Canal House:** The holidays are just around the corner so get in the spirit and stop by the historic canal house on the corner of Blackwells Mills and Canal Road in the Franklin Township section of Somerset for this annual sale. You'll find unique antique treasures, collectibles, jewelry, household items, gift suggestions, children's books and more. **The house will be open from 10 - 4. Registration is NOT required and admission is FREE!**

Nov. 21: **Hike to the Prallsville Mill:** Come join the park naturalist and historian for a joint **3-mile walk from Bulls Island to the Prallsville Mill site in Stockton.** Participants will not only learn about the natural and historic resources to be found at the Park but also be treated to a tour of the historic John Prall Jr. House, headquarters for the Delaware River Mill Society and the NJ Conservancy. This is a one-way 3-mile walk with transportation provided for the return trip to Bulls Island. **Participants are asked to meet at the Bulls Island office at 10:00 am (located 7 miles north of Lambertville off Route 29 in Hunterdon County). Pre-registration IS REQUIRED. Weather permitting.**



NOVEMBER 2009