

Hopewell Valley Come Outside and Play!

June 6-8, 2024

Outdoor Activities Abound!



Join the Hopewell Valley Municipal Alliance and its community partners for this 3-day community-wide event, now in its 14th year. Established to increase awareness of nature and an appreciation of time spent outdoors, families and community members are welcome to attend any of these activities.

Some activities require advance registration. Activities are free, open to all ages and will be cancelled in case of inclement weather *unless otherwise noted*.

Morning Bird Walk at Mt. Rose Preserve

Date: Thursday, June 6 **Time:** 7:30AM-9:30AM

Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space and the New Jersey Conservation Foundation will co-host a casual morning bird walk for birders (and bird watchers) of all skill levels. Join us for a stroll through meadow and woodland, with a stop at our reforestation project, to observe and enjoy the songbirds breeding here this season. Binoculars will be available for loan during the program. **Registration required!** <https://bit.ly/3wE6rCi> This walk will be led by Jenn Rogers, Executive Director of FoHVOs. **Location:** 350 Carter Road, Princeton / 40.362550, -74.737906 **Sponsors:** Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space & New Jersey Conservation Foundation

Outdoor Themed Story Time

Date: Thursday, June 6 **Time:** 10:30AM-11:00AM

Learn about nature with books, finger plays and songs about the great outdoors! Open to children ages 5 and under, accompanied by an adult. Children will receive a take-home craft after story time. Space is limited. **Registration is required!** Go to mcl.org/events. Small chairs will be provided but feel free to bring your own chairs or a blanket for your family. *Rain or shine event!* **Location:** Hopewell Branch Library, 245 Pennington Titusville Road, Pennington **Sponsor:** Mercer County Library System, Hopewell Branch Library

Outdoor Art Room

Date: Thursday, June 6 **Time:** 4:00PM-5:00PM

Join *Art Sparks* at Kunkel Park in Pennington for a chance to be part of a long, worldwide tradition of celebrating the beauty in nature reflected through the visual arts. Be inspired by the textures, colors and shapes in the natural world, and create a work of art combining traditional art materials with small objects found in nature. Recommended for age 5-10. An adult must accompany all children. **Registration required!** Space is limited to 10 students. Email child's first name and age to info@artsparksstudio.com **Location:** Kunkel Park, King George Road, Pennington **Sponsors:** *Art Sparks and Pennington Borough Parks & Recreation*

Fun at Woolsey Park

Date: Thursday, June 6 **Time:** 6:00PM-8:00PM

Come outside and play at Woolsey Park! The Hopewell Township Recreation Department will be handing out Township Passports to travel through the park and experience activities like: whacky relay races and carnival games. The Hopewell Township Public Works department and Hopewell Township Police Department will also be on hand for everyone to experience "touch a truck" and see inside police vehicles. Do not be left out, join in the fun!

Location: Woolsey Park, 221 Washington Crossing-Pennington Road, Titusville **Sponsors:** *Hopewell Township Parks & Recreation, Hopewell Township Public Works & Hopewell Township Police Department*

Kids Swim Free at Hopewell Quarry

Date: Friday, June 7 **Time:** 4:00PM-6:00PM

Come enjoy a swim at this hidden gem! Free late-day kids pass with the purchase of a late day adult pass. Although bathing suit styles may have changed over the years, much of the Quarry has remained the same. Purchased by Friends of Hopewell Quarry in August 2021, the Hopewell Quarry is now protected open space and will serve the public as a swimming hole and events space for decades to come. Register online or at the gate, www.hopewellquarry.org/buy-passes **Location:** 180 Crusher Road, Hopewell **Sponsor:** *Hopewell Quarry*

... More activities on next page

2024 Partners

Amateur Astronomers
Association of Princeton

Art Sparks

Friends of Hopewell Valley
Open Space

Hopewell Quarry

Hopewell Township
Parks & Recreation

Hopewell Township
Public Works

Hopewell Township
Police Department

Hopewell Valley Regional
School District

Howell Living History Farm

Mercer County Library
Hopewell Branch

Mercer County
Park Commission

Mercer County Wildlife Center

New Jersey Conservation
Foundation

Pennington Borough
Parks & Recreation

Pennington Farmers Market

Pennington Public Library



For questions contact:
Hopewell Valley Municipal Alliance
hvmunicipalalliance.org



Hopewell Valley's Backyard

Astronomy Outside with Telescopes

Date: Friday, June 7 **Time:** 8:45PM-11:00PM

Get outside under the stars and observe our night sky! Travel light-years through the eyepieces of professional-grade telescopes and see the wonders of the night sky up close and personal. Expert astronomers will guide you and answer all your astronomy questions. Program will happen only if twilight skies are clear or partly clear. Please check AAAP website www.princetonastronomy.org/public_nights. **Location:** Washington Crossing State Park (enter off Bear Tavern Road) visit AAAP website for directions and map. **Sponsor:** Amateur Astronomers Association of Princeton.

Pennington Farmers Market Lawn Games & Food Pantry Collection

Date: Saturday, June 8 **Time:** 9:00AM-1:00PM

Come to the Pennington Farmers Market and play with our lawn games. We will have Corn Hole, hula hoops and various other outdoor activities. We will also have participation prizes for all children. If it rains, we will still be doing a farmers market scavenger hunt with prizes. The market also will have music from 10-12. Please bring a non-perishable item for Chubby's Food Pantry and the Hopewell Valley Mobile Food Pantry. *Rain or shine!* **Location:** Rosedale Mills, Route 31, Pennington **Sponsor:** Pennington Farmers Market

Sounds of Nature Walk

Date: Saturday, June 8 **Time:** 10:00AM-12:00PM

Unwind while taking in the sounds and scents of the forest on this guided nature walk along the Stony Brook in Mercer Meadows-Rosedale Park. This trail will traverse some small streams and pass through a mature beech forest on the way to a beaver lodge. Registration required: <http://register.communitypass.net/merc> **Location:** Mercer Meadows-Rosedale Park; lower parking lot near the restrooms. **Sponsor:** Mercer County Park Commission

Seasonal Nature Walk at Fiddler's Creek Preserve

Date: Saturday, June 8 **Time:** 9:00AM-11:00AM

The land that is now Fiddler's Creek Preserve had been the "missing piece" of preserved land between Washington Crossing State Park and Baldpate Mountain. We'll walk on forested creek-side trails, through 40 acres of growing forest, and take a pit stop at the bird banding station in the preserve's restoration area. This is a great opportunity for adults and families to stretch their legs, understand the role of restoration in our community, explore a new preserve, and possibly see songbirds up-close! **Registration is required!** <https://bit.ly/3K8akCo> This hike is led by Jenn Rogers, Executive Director of FoHVOS. **Location:** Fiddler's Creek Preserve, Fiddler's Creek Road, Hopewell Township NJ / 40.316788, -74.884734 **Sponsor:** Friends of Hopewell Valley Open Space

Old-Time Baseball Game

Date: Saturday, June 8 **Times:** 11:00AM & 1:30PM

Take to the field with the Bulls or the Hogs and play ball! Howell Farm's two teams play by 19th-century Town Ball rules and invite visitors of all ages to step up to the plate as "Striker" face off against the "Thrower." But be careful of the Referee, who sits in a chair on the field and charges fines of up to 5 cents for breaking the rules! At 11:00AM watch the Flemington Neshanocks face off against the Elizabeth Resolutes in a historic baseball club match. At 1:30PM join Howell Farm's own Hogs and Bulls for a public game on the farmhouse lawn. **Location:** Howell Living History Farm, 70 Woodens Lane, Lambertville **Sponsor:** Howell Living History Farm

Story Stroll & Craft

Dates: Thursday, June 6 - Saturday, June 8 **Time:** Dawn to Dusk

Let's go on a Story Stroll! Exercise your body and your imagination as you follow the pages of Maybe Something Beautiful through Kunkel Park. Then, stop by the library's Maker Station all month to create rock art and spread beauty in your own neighborhood! No registration necessary. For more information, visit www.PenningtonLibrary.org/ComeOutside2024. For pre-school, kindergarten, and elementary families **Location:** Kunkel Park, King George Road, Pennington & Pennington Public Library, 30 N. Main Street, Pennington **Sponsor:** Pennington Public Library

Outdoor Education Environment at the Wildlife Center

Dates: Thursday, June 6 - Saturday June 8 **Time:** 10:00AM-4:00PM

The Outdoor Education Environment located at Mercer County Park Wildlife Center is home to 15 permanent residents. These animals were either severely injured or because of human imprint, were not able to exist out in the wild. The enclosures you will see provide a safe environment for our birds and mammals to exist. Surrounding the enclosures is a wildflower pollinator meadow. All tours are self-guided. **Location:** 1748 River Road, Titusville **Sponsor:** Mercer County Wildlife Center