



THE LILY PAD



Dr. Victor Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve

<http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/reg9/reinstein>

Fall 2003

Volume No. III, Issue No. 2

3rd ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL!

Saturday, September 20, 2003

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Come out for a day of outdoor fun with the family! See the newsletter insert for the complete activity schedule. Here's a sample of what's happening this year at the fall festival:

- Meet our walking, talking state symbols!
- Join the Great Lakes Beach Sweep cleanup
- Learn about and taste wild edibles of the woods!
- See demonstrations on forest fighting by a DEC ranger & Native American living by Chet Dulak
- Make a plaster cast of an animal track!
- Guided nature walks starting every 30 min.
- See live birds from Second Chance Wildlife Rehabilitation Center
- Get creative at nature arts & crafts!
- View nature and historic exhibits
- Munch on hot dogs and other tasty treats sold by Boy Scout Troop 500!
- Hourly door prize drawings for adults and kids

FALL FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

We are looking for volunteers to help out at the 3rd Annual Fall Festival on **Saturday, September 20, 2003 from 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM.**

People are needed to help set up tents, tables, and chairs the day before and morning of the festival, to direct parking, staff the welcome table, help with a variety of activities, and lead guided tours. Help out for an hour or two, then enjoy the rest of the day at the Festival!

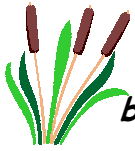
If you can give us a hand at the Fall Festival, please call 851-7201 (weekdays) or 683-5959.

FRIENDS OF REINSTEIN NATURE PRESERVE

A group of volunteers has submitted incorporation papers to form a non-profit "Friends" group for Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve. The mission of Friends of Reinstein Nature Preserve (FORNP) is to preserve, protect, and enhance the natural resources and cultural heritage of Reinstein Woods by:

- promoting a knowledge of nature and awareness, appreciation, and stewardship of this unique and diverse environment
- enhancing and supporting programs at Reinstein Woods
- creating a support network through memberships
- coordinating fund-raising and accepting donations.

Call 851-7201 for information on how to get involved with this new Friends group or look for their information table at the Fall Festival!



Nature Notes

by Kristen Buechi, DEC Educator

If you visited the Preserve this summer, you may have noticed that the planters in the parking lot looked a little “weedy”—these are our “wild” flower gardens! The past two summers, volunteers weeded the gardens and planted donated perennials such as feverfew, shasta daisies, and mums. This summer we decided to leave nature alone and let things grow wild!

After an area of soil is disturbed, it is quickly colonized by new seeds carried by the wind and animals or by seeds stored in the soil (a seed bank) that have been waiting for the right conditions to grow. Growing in your yard, these plants might be considered “weeds,” but here they are beautiful wildflowers. These wildflowers will be used by a variety of butterflies, bees, and other insects. The seeds will be eaten by many species of birds.

Look for some of these colorful plants in our “wild” flower garden: bee balm, black mustard, bull thistle, common mullein, curled dock, dame’s rocket, feverfew, grasses, hedge mustard, least hop clover, moth mullein, ox-eye daisy, shepherd’s purse, vetch, winter cress, and yellow wood-sorrel. Only one plant was removed—a 6’ tall poison hemlock plant, which is extremely toxic (this is the plant that Socrates used to commit suicide!). So if you can tolerate a little “messy” natural area, try leaving a small section of your yard unmowed or garden unweeded next year—then watch to see what grows and who visits it!

THE LILY PAD NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE ON-LINE!

In case you haven’t heard, *The Lily Pad* quarterly newsletter is now available online in PDF format on our website at:

www.dec.state.ny.us/website/reg9/reinstein

Due to budget limitations, we will only be able to print and mail paper copies of the newsletter in limited quantities in the future. If you have Internet access, we ask that you please view future editions of the newsletter on-line. To be added to the email notification list, email us at rwnp@gw.dec.state.ny.us. You will be sent a message when the latest edition of the newsletter is posted on-line.

HOURS

PUBLIC GUIDED TOURS

Wednesday & Saturday

10:00 AM

(No reservations required)

LILY POND LOOP SELF-GUIDED TRAIL

Tuesday & Thursday

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

(Visitors must sign in and out at trailhead kiosk)

CLOSED ON STATE HOLIDAYS

www.dec.state.ny.us/website/reg9/reinstein

Thank you to our Volunteers!

We owe our gratitude to the many volunteers who have helped lead tours at Reinstein Woods this summer: Art Aigner, Jake Bajdas, Terry Boyle, Sheila Fournier, Art Grupp, Mary & Peter Losi, Julie Panepento, Christine Parish, Chris Riley, Cecelia Schroeder, Tom Stoll, and Jim Zak.

Also, thanks to the volunteers who helped promote Reinstein Woods at the Erie County Fair and WNY Earth Day: Art Aigner, Jake Bajdas, Sheila Fournier, Sunny Hojnacki, Mary Kochersberger, Doreen Panzarella, Jeanne Pawlik, and Tom Stoll.

FROGWATCH USA RESULTS

The first Frogwatch USA season at Reinstein Woods ended in July. Volunteers documented the presence of 9 frog species, including American toad, bullfrog, common gray treefrog, green frog, northern leopard frog, pickerel frog, spring peeper, wood frog, and western chorus frog.



Thanks again to all of the volunteers who helped monitor our frog population: Rick Allen, Bill Boehm, Terry Boyle, Kevin Grzybek, Judy & Keith Gruchy, Sheila, Andrew, & Alisha Fournier, Candi Litwin, Val Macer & her Medaille College students, Cecelia Schroeder, AJ & Krissy Sokolik, and Bill & Pat Townsend.

Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve – Fall 2003 Programs

77 Honorine Drive, Cheektowaga, NY

Pre-registration is required for some programs; call 851-7201 (weekdays) or 683-5959.

SEPTEMBER

Stroller Strut (For children ages 0-3)

Monday, September 8 at 10:00 AM

Bring your stroller and share a sensory exploration of nature with your young child.

Pre-registration required.

Fall Festival

Saturday, September 20

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Outdoor fun for the whole family! Nature walks, arts & crafts, scavenger hunt, exhibitors, demonstrations, live animals, food, and more!

See page 4 or our website for details.

Fall Fungi

Saturday, September 27 at 1:00 PM

Find out the difference between a mushroom and fungus on a search for them in the forest. Bring field guides if you have them.



OCTOBER

Full Moon Walk

Friday, October 10 at 7:30 PM

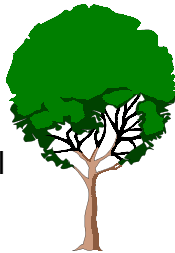
Come out to look for night life in the woods! Bring a flashlight if you have one.

Pre-registration required.

Trees along the Trail

Saturday, October 18 at 1:00 PM

Learn how to identify the trees of Reinstein Woods before they lose all of their leaves!



Owl Prowl

Friday, October 24 at 7:00 PM

Learn about our local owls and listen for their sounds on a walk led by local birder Chuck Rosenberg. **Pre-registration required; children over 6 years and adults only.**

NOVEMBER

Project FeederWatch

Saturday, November 8 at 1:00 PM

Help kick off the start of our 4th Project FeederWatch season at Reinstein Woods! Make a bird feeder and learn the “how-to” of feeding birds in winter.



Owl Prowl

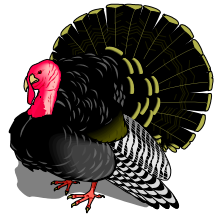
Friday, November 21 at 7:00 PM

Learn about our local owls and listen for their sounds on a walk led by local birder Chuck Rosenberg. **Pre-registration required; children over 6 years and adults only.**

Turkey Talk

Saturday, November 22 at 1:00 PM

Learn about these interesting native birds who almost became our national symbol, and see where they live!



PLEASE NOTE:

All programs are held entirely outdoors, so please dress appropriately for the weather. Call 683-5959 after hours & weekends to see if a program has been canceled due to severe weather.

We are unable to accommodate organized groups of more than ten people or groups with special needs for these programs; please call to schedule a separate program for a group of this size or larger.

Programs last approximately 1½ hours, unless otherwise noted. If you register for a program and are unable to attend, please cancel your registration so that others may sign up! (851-7201 weekdays or 683-5959 after 5:00 PM & weekends). See our website for more info:

www.dec.state.ny.us/website/reg9/reinstein

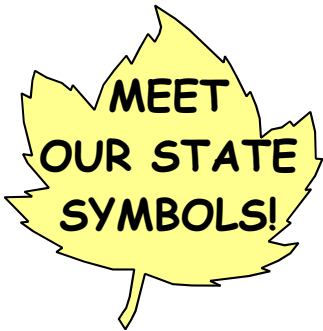


Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve

3rd Annual

FALL FESTIVAL

**Saturday, September 20, 2003
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM**



SPECIAL EVENTS

- | | |
|----------|----------------------------|
| 10:00 AM | Great Lakes Beach Sweep |
| 10:00 AM | Decorate a Walking Stick |
| 11:00 AM | Forest Firefighting Demo |
| 12:00 PM | Make a Leaf Print Bookmark |
| 1:00 PM | Decorate a Walking Stick |
| 1:30 PM | Taste of Nature |
| 2:00 PM | Forest Firefighting Demo |

77 Honorine Drive (off Como Park Blvd.), Cheektowaga, NY
For more information, call 851-7201 or 683-5959 or see our website:

www.dec.state.ny.us/website/reg9/reinstein



New York State
Department of Environmental Conservation
Dr. Victor Reinstein Woods Nature Preserve



Special Thanks to:

Mrs. Osieja's special ed class – for donating sheets for use in displays
Eileen Wall & Friends – for donating cross country skis, boots, and poles
Al Schick – for donating nature books
Jeanne Pawlik – for donating birdseed and suet cakes
***Country Parkway Elementary School (special ed), St. Ambrose School,
and Our Lady of Pompeii School (2nd & 5th grades)***– for monetary donations

DR. VICTOR REINSTEIN WOODS NATURE PRESERVE

77 Honorine Drive, Cheektowaga, NY
(716) 851-7201 (weekdays) / (716) 683-5959 (evenings/weekends)
Fax: (716) 851-7211
E-Mail: rwnp@gw.dec.state.ny.us

MAILING ADDRESS:

270 Michigan Ave.
Buffalo, NY 14203-2999

DEC OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Friday 8:30 AM-4:45 PM

STAFF:

Kristen Buechi, Environmental Educator Asst.
Meaghan Boice-Green, Citizen Participation Specialist 2
Patricia Nelson, Citizen Participation Specialist