

**SPECIAL
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Nature Watch

The above normal rainfall and below average temperatures could have an impact on this year's autumn foliage. Colors are likely to be muted this year as a result of the atypical weather we have been having. Time will tell for sure.

From late October into November, **Red-tailed hawks** are moving south. Look overhead on a warm autumn day for a "kettle" of redtails circling in a bubble of rising air. Other raptors will also be moving through as they

make their way southward. Look for the V's of wild **Canada Geese** as they migrate through



in November (except for resident birds). You might also see the more wavy lines of **Snow Geese** as they pass overhead on their way south. Look for the yellow flowers of **witch Hazel** as it blooms near

the middle of the month in our forests.

Waterfowl migration peaks during late November into mid-December and **Tundra Swans** often make a brief appearance.

Male **Great Horned Owls** establish their territories in November and December. Listen for their "Who's awake? Me too" calls on autumn nights. Later in December look for the moth-like flight of **Short-eared Owls** over grassy fields just before sunset.



Sky Watch

A waxing moon passes by **Jupiter** on Oct. 11, **Saturn** on Oct. 14 and **Mars** on Oct. 17. Look to the east-south-east for the **Orionid Meteor Shower** to peak in the late night hours of October 21. Best viewing will be from 2 a.m. till dawn. October's **New Moon** is

on the 8th and **Full Moon** on the 24th. Venus appears low in the dawn sky in early November and becomes higher in the east-southeast through the month. Mars is high in the south at dusk. **New Moon** is on the 7th; **Full Moon** on the 22nd. De-

ember's **New Moon** is on the 7th and **Full Moon** is on the 22nd. Venus is bright in the southeast before and during dawn. The **Geminid Meteor Shower** peaks on the night of December 14-15. After 10 p.m. you might see an average of a meteor a minute under a clear sky.

COLORS OF AUTUMN HIKE

**Saturday, October 13
10-11:30 a.m.**

**Meet in Environmental Education
Center**

Led by Jon D. Beam



Pennsylvania's deciduous forests put on a colorful display each autumn. Every year the fall foliage is unique in its color. What will this year bring? Join us for a walk through the autumn woods as we enjoy a fall morning and discuss autumn's changes and the hows and whys of leaf change as trees prepare for the winter months.

“For man, autumn
is a time of harvest,
of gathering
together. For
nature, it is a time
of sowing, of
scattering abroad.”

— Edwin Way Teale



OWLS OF PENNSYLVANIA

**Friday, November 2
7-8:30 p.m.**

**Environmental Education Center
Presented by: Jon D. Beam**

Owls are fascinating creatures. Their nocturnal activity often goes undetected as they go about their nighttime hunting. The owls that reside in Pennsylvania range in size from small to rather large. Each has its own particular habitat and hunting strategy. Join us to learn more about these amazing birds of prey as we delve into the natural history of each species.



WILDLIFE ART EXPO

Saturday, Nov. 10

Noon to 4 p.m.

& Sunday, Nov. 11

11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Environmental Education Center

Pennsylvania is home to a wide variety of wildlife, which in turn is the inspiration to wildlife artists. Join us to enjoy the skill of these artists as they display the wild outdoors captured in photos, oils, pen and ink, and wood. It might be a strutting turkey, a sun-dappled rainbow trout or a white-tailed buck slipping through an autumn forest. It could be a hawk riding a west wind or a colorful songbird picking berries from a bush. This is a great opportunity to get a close look at original art, meet the artists behind the creations and pick up a few ideas for your own artistic side.

WINGS OVER WATER

Saturday, December 1

and

December 15

10-11:30 a.m.

Meet at Goose Cove

Overlook

Led by: Jon D. Beam



The annual autumn waterfowl migration is under way. This provides a great opportunity to observe ducks, geese and other water birds while they stop at lakes and ponds for a time before moving farther south for the winter. The program will begin on one corner of the lake and make our way to one or two additional sites. Dress for the weather and plan for some walking. Bring binoculars or a spotting scope and a field guide if available.



Happy Holidays





The Montour Area Recreation Commission (MARC) is a group of mostly volunteers, committed to providing the best possible recreation facilities for the people of Montour County and the area serviced by the Danville Area School District (DASD). We are people who live and work here and recognize the vast resources the area has to offer. We are interested in helping to create a great place to live, work and raise a family. We hold monthly meetings on the 4th Monday of each month (except July) at 7:00 pm at the DRIVE conference room, Montour County building, 114 Woodbine Lane, Suite 103, Danville, PA 17821 – that are open to anyone and we are always looking for new ideas and perspectives.

Bob Stoudt, Director
Jon Beam, Assisant Director
Dennis Piatt, Trail Maintenance Technician
Lesley Yeich, Assistant Trail Maintenance Technician
PO Box 456 Danville, PA 17821
Phone: 570-336-2060

For more information about MARC Projects, visit: <http://montourec.com/>

Pavilion Reservations

Montour Area Recreation Commission (MARC) is now accepting reservations for the 2018 season.

Fees will be as follows:

Goose Cove #1 — \$100/day
Goose Cove #2 — \$75/day
or \$30/ half day
Goose Cove #3 — \$75/day
or \$30/ half day

Goose Cove Overlook — \$75/day or \$30/ half day
Heron Cove A — \$100/day
Heron Cove B — \$75/day

Each pavilion offers tables, electric, water, charcoal grill and easy access to playground equipment and restroom facilities.

To reserve a pavilion visit: <http://>

MontourPreserve.org/pavilions/ to review the online calendar of reservations for available dates. Contact MARC at (570) 336-2060 or Support@MontourPreserve.org to schedule your reservation.

As in the past, if a pavilion is not reserve for a specific day and time, it is available on a first come first served basis.

Visitors Center Hours

The Montour Preserve Visitors' Center is open 8:00am – 4:00pm Monday – Saturday from mid-February through mid-November. It is open 8:00am – 4:00pm Monday – Friday during the winter season (mid-November through mid-

February). The building will be open at additional times for programs and special events.

