

**SPECIAL  
POINTS OF  
INTEREST:**

- Join us for one of a variety of programs this summer.

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## Summer Nature Notes

The hotter days of summer slow the pace of nature but there is still a lot of activity, especially on a smaller scale. Patrolling **dragonflies** zoom along ponds, streams and wet meadows as they reach the peak of their activity. By late summer and into early fall, the largest dragonflies, Green Damers, begin to migrate following ridges south through the state.



Butterflies feed actively during these warm days, mating and laying eggs. The first **Monarch butterflies** appear in July, their spectacular orange-and-black wings fluttering over fields. **Fireflies** or lightning bugs reach their peak of activity in July, flashing their signal lanterns after dark in an effort to attract a mate while fascinating children of all ages at the same time.

August brings a flurry of asters blooming as the first “wave” of **warblers** begins night flights south. **Barn Swallows** begin gathering in August in preparation for their early migration south for the winter. Shortening days in late August and September prompt shorebirds to make their way south also. Much less well-known is the nocturnal passage of many songbirds during September and October. These **night-flying birds** are sometimes silhouetted against the moon as they fly past on a clear night. Listen for their short nocturnal flight calls that indicate their flight. Watch the face of the full or nearly full moon with binoculars to see this unusual event.



## Summer Sky Watch

July’s **New Moon** is on the 12th. **Full Moon** occurs on the 27th. **Venus** and the crescent Moon are paired close together low in the western twilight on July 15. On the 20th, the Moon is close to Jupiter at dusk. On July 30-31, Mars is the closest to Earth it will be until 2035. It will be brighter than the brightest star through

September low in the southern sky.

August’s **New Moon** is on the 11th. **New Moon** occurs on the 26th. The **Perseid**

**Meteor Shower** peaks in the late hours of August 12 and early morning of August 13. You can expect to see meteors from late July through August, but the highest numbers will be during the peak. Watch from 11 p.m. until dawn for an average of a meteor a minute.

In September the **New Moon** falls on the 9th. **Full Moon** occurs on the 24th. The Autumnal Equinox occurs on the 22nd at 9:54 p.m. **Venus** is firmly in place in the west after sunset.

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS



“Bees do have a smell, you know, and if they don't they should, for their feet are dusted with spices from a million flowers.”

— Ray Bradbury,  
Dandelion Wine



### HUMMINGBIRDS AS POLLINATORS

Sunday, June 24  
2-3 p.m.

Environmental Education Center  
Presented by: Dick Hess

Hummingbirds are amazing little birds. They have incredibly fast wingbeats, can hover and fly backwards. They also play a special role in the environment. Join us to learn about hummingbirds and their role as flower pollinators. You will enjoy some amazing photographs and learn about how hummingbirds make their living.

Sponsored by the Montour County Penn State Master Gardeners



## **PENNSYLVANIA HUNTER-TRAPPER EDUCATION COURSE**

**Saturday, August 11**

**9 a.m.- 5 p.m.**

**Environmental Education Center**

**Presented by: PA Game Commission Instructors**

This course is designed to produce safe, responsible and knowledgeable hunters and trappers. It includes instruction in basic techniques plus a host of hunting, trapping and outdoor skills designed to enhance a new participant's knowledge and enjoyment of wildlife and our hunting and trapping heritage.

Beginning and experienced hunters and trappers are welcome. Participants must be at least 11 years of age to enroll in a course and must attend all three sessions to qualify for certification. Adults are encouraged to attend with their children.

Please register early because space in this course is limited. To register go to <http://www.pgc.state.pa.us/> and find the hunter education calendar. There is a home-study portion of the course that must be completed before the classroom session.

## **DYNAMICS OF FLOWING WATER**

**Saturday, August 25**

**10 a.m.**

**Meet in Environmental Education Center**

**Presented by: Montour County**

**Conservation District and**

**Chillisquaque Limestone Watershed**

**Association**



We all live in a watershed with streams and rivers providing habitat for fish, waterfowl and a variety of insects and some mammals. Watersheds provide recreational opportunities for our enjoyment. These rivers and streams are dynamic in their nature, constantly moving sediment from one place to leave it behind in another. Join us for a demonstration of these stream dynamics and learn how streams and rivers can reshape the landscape. You will also learn about watersheds and how important it is to care for the streams in them.

## **MOONLIGHT WALK**

**Saturday, September 22  
7-8:30 p.m.**

**Meet in Environmental Education Center  
Led by: Jon D. Beam**



On this last day of summer the nearly full moon shines bright overhead. Join us as the sun sets for a walk along one of the preserve's trails at an easy pace. We'll explore the twilight world of animals as well as discussing lore, legend and facts about the moon.



## **BIRDS OF AUTUMN**

**Saturday, September 29  
8:30 –10 a.m.**

**Meet in Environmental Education Center  
Led by: Jon D. Beam**

Many of our summer birds are getting ready to or have already begun to migrate. We'll take a walk on preserve trails to look at the remaining summer residents, all-year residents and, hopefully, some early migrant birds. Bring binoculars if you have them.

### **Montour Preserve Website**

Visit Montour Preserve's website maintained by the Montour Area Recreation Commission. Here you will find information about events at Montour Preserve, pavilion reservation information, some great photographs, volunteer and

donation information.

Please visit the site at:

[www.MontourPreserve.org](http://www.MontourPreserve.org).



## Visitors Center Hours

Hours for the summer and fall months will be Monday—Saturday 8 a.m.- 4 p.m. The center will be closed on Sundays and holidays unless there is a scheduled program.

# Pavilion Reservations

Montour Area Recreation Commission (MARC) will begin taking reservations for pavilions at Montour Preserve. Fees will be as follows:

Goose Cove #1 — \$100/day

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

Goose Cove #3 — \$75/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](mailto:Support@MontourPreserve.org) to schedule your reservation.

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



Bob Stoudt, Director  
Jon Beam, Assistant 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/>

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.