

INTO THE WOODS, OUT OF THE WOODS, AND HOME BEFORE DARK

At Tenaflly Nature Center, you will may not find a giant, a witch, a cow, or a prince in agony, but you will definitely find the woods. A person new to TNC may ask what can be done in the woods, if you are not there to lift a spell or visit a sick grandmother? The answer: Tenaflly Nature Center has so much to offer visitors! Whether it's your first visit or one of many returns, there is always something new to do or see here within our preserve.

Often referred to as a “living museum”, TNC’s mission is to enrich visitors’ lives through nature. Through the preservation of the land we have been entrusted with, we are able to provide education and recreation opportunities and to be a resource for our community at large. The creation and continued expansion of passive educational opportunities and scheduled programs means there is always something for adults, families, and children to enjoy.

The John A. Redfield Visitors' Center is TNC's indoor facility for educational programs, interactive exhibits, and is home to the majority of our live Animal Ambassadors. This center represents a small portion of what we have to offer. The forest that makes up the 400-acre preserve serves as the majority of our visitors’ explorative space, and we urge you to trek the over 7 miles of trails to get the full experience.

Seasonal exhibits like our Butterfly House are a favorite destination for families, with many parents getting

the same resounding “Noooooooooo!” answer when asking their children if they are ready to go. Visitors come knowing their support goes to an organization whose priority is the welfare of our animals welfare and land preservation.



Permanent exhibits like our Aviary, Storywalk® Trail, or Bellflower Faerie Trail offer visitors a chance to revisit a favorite part of TNC while still enjoying new elements each time.

For everything TNC does offer, we cannot do it all! We often field requests to take in wild injured or orphaned animals. *With no medical care facilities and no veterinarian on staff, TNC is not a wildlife rehabilitation center.* We are happy to provide our community with the necessary information to find NJ DEP licensed rehabilitators should they ever find an animal in dire need. In the same vein, TNC staff are highly qualified educators and land managers, rather than animal control officers, and are unable to assist with the removal of unwanted wildlife. Instead, staff can help interested visitors gain insight into

why local species may be digging under a foundation or hammering their beak on siding.

To learn more about what TNC offers to visitors and the community, we encourage you to visit

TenafllyNC.org/Plan-Your-Visit

Trails close an hour before sunset—make sure you are out of the woods before dark!



ATTENTION MEMBERS



**Wednesday, October 19
8:00 pm**

You are invited to the Tenaflly Nature Center Association’s Annual Meeting. It is a time to celebrate the past year and to vote in new TNC board members. As a member you are welcome to join, participate, and vote.

Connect with other members and meet with those who support our beautiful preserve. Learn about the great things we accomplished and what is planned for the upcoming year.

Register at TenafllyNC.org

Meeting will be held in person with a Zoom link available for registered members



*A 501(c)3 non-profit,
member-supported organization*

Executive Board

President	Peter Emmi
Vice President	Emily Yang
Vice President	Susan Golden
Treasurer	Bruce Balsam
Secretary	Hyuk Lee
Member-At-Large	Andrew Mikesh

Trustees

Marlyn Friedberg	Wendi Thompson
Elaine Rho	Nini Wong
Rita Rodin	

Borough Liaison Lauren Dayton

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Executive Director	Debora Davidson
Development Mgr.	Brian Wilson
Bookkeepers	Dara & Frank Falco
Grant Writer	Helene Bon
Land & Facilities Manager	Alex Braunstein
Education Program Manager	Jennifer LoDico
Field Trip & TNC to Go Manager	Anna Sills
Forest School Director	Amanda Schuster
Scout & Public Program Coordinator	Cabell Neterer
Environmental Educators	

Arsen Arustamyan	Jillian Henthorn
Sasha Boucher	Asai MasChang
Nick Cooper	Kristin McLellan
Patty Cruz	Mia Montoya
Kathleen Farley	Abby Rudin
Alejandro Gillespie	Rebecca Schuman
Phoebe Gruetter	Caroline Tuero

Visitor Center:	9:30 am-4:30 pm
Education Pavilion:	Closed to the public
Trails:	Open daily 1 hour after sunrise until 1 hour prior to sunset

Learn more at TenafllyNC.org

A Look Back at Summer

Another summer has ended and this year was a memorable one!

This summer we were able to bring back many beloved camp activities that had been cancelled in the early days of the pandemic. One of these activities was our Campfire Cookouts!

Each Friday we asked families to donate food items for a camp-wide cookout for lunch. The oldest age group helped in collecting and preparing the food, as well as assisting with building the campfire.

Hot dogs, corn and sweet potatoes were roasted over the open flame. Crisp and cool watermelon was always a treat, along with lemonade and other snacks. And what campfire is complete without gooey marshmallows and s'mores?



TNC serves campers from diverse backgrounds, and we are proud to be a safe and welcoming space for all. We organize our food activity offerings to be inclusive of all allergies and dietary observances such as vegan, cultural-based, and religious-based such as kosher. It warmed our hearts to hear families' gratitude as they understood and appreciated that their child could fully participate in food-based activities with a little thought and attention.

Another returning activity for this summer was canoeing on Pfister's Pond. Our eldest group took to the

water and enjoyed a morning out searching for waterfowl and other aquatic creatures.

We had many familiar faces return to TNC as campers, staff and volunteers. When campers enter high school, they are eligible to become Counselors in Training (CITs). Tasked with the responsibilities of keeping an eye on campers, writing and implementing a lesson plan, and assisting with overall setup and cleanup throughout the camp day, CITs gain leadership experience while enjoying the same outdoor nature fun as the campers. This year we had a handful of campers return as CITs and they brought an extra



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Thank You to All TNC Members & Supporters

We are extremely grateful for all our Members and Financial Supporters
whose gifts assist us in ensuring our mission's success!

New and Returning Members

May 24, 2022-August 22, 2022

Individual & Senior Members

Mary Alvarez, Mary Beese, Margaret Browar, Jane Defilippis, Leslie Kraus, Ralph Macchio, Lisbeth Malkin, Lee Mondschein, Frank Osmer, Charlie Redmond, Patricia Ribaudo, Fran Silverman, Lori Simon, Ann Sparanese, Jane Thompson, Leslie Young, and Babette Zacks

TNC for Two Members

Alan and Helene Berenbaum, Castielle Chun, Gabrielle Guzman, James A Johnson, Denise Kuehner, Paul Lefkowitz, Shani Lotan, Ellen Mccoll, Caroline Nagy, Rhonda Rosenberg, Reggie Smith, Kathleen Tamalonis, Hirotaka Yamamoto

Family & Family Plus Members

Simona Aguiard, Takahiko Asano, Jason Aspinwall, Paula Aurbach, Ilse Avilam, Ramz Aziz, Daniella Bedros, Chris Biggins, David Breau, Wendy Burbano, Susrut Carpenter, Alfred Cho, Jiyeon Chung, Jonathan Cohen, Naftali Cohen, Chris Collins, Christine Cook, Kirsten Corio, George And Angela Costello, Stephanie Cropper, Abigail Dahan, Emily Deyring, Mathias L Dill, Raemy Do-Suwatson, Susan Elmendorf, Morgan Elzey, Mark Erdtmann, Elaine Ernst, Jisu Eun, Rosanne Facchini, Josephine Falco, Jeffrey Feldman, Kali Ferrer, Avivit Fisher, Sanford Friedman, Katherine Frink-Hamlett, Elly Geana-Park, Georges Ghacibeh, Tovah Gidseg, Hami Golbayani, Sharon Goldfarb (Epstein), Susan Goldfarb Grossman, Liv Goldman, Catherine Goyanes, Ariela

Harcstark, Kayla Harris, Ranjit Hatti, Jessica Hirsh, Michelle Holme, Inbal Israeli Miller, Kristi Jackson, Samantha Kantor, Reena Khianey, Jaena Kim, Janet Kim, John Kim, Yoon Hee Kim, Sin Man Katherine Ko, Yong Kong, Teddy Koo, Tasuku Kurita, Clara Sohi Kwon, Gerard Lafond, Joseph Larkins, Christiane Lee, Daniel Lee, Gloria Lepore, Ran Lev, Lawrence Lewitinn, Sophia Li, Evonne Liu, Constance Lodolo, Oria Malka, Julie Marallo, Gloria Marin, Ashley Marsden, Joyce Martin, Noriko Matsuki, Tatiana Metje, Audrey Meunier, Brenda Miners, Anna Minnetian, Abdul Nabulsi, Harriett Nachum, Maxine Nakamura, Julie Lien Ng, Abbey Novia, Bryan Pace, Jessica Padilla, Jyothi Panchumarthy, Aiden Park, Darrin Peller, Angie Pflanz, Carlos Pinder, Jake Pollack, Himani Pradhan, Janet Reilly, Andras Revesz, Kateri Riley, Cassandra Roth, Dalia Sabari, Susan Scherman, Peter Schrier, Nitsan Shacham, Maria Sharina, Maria Sharp, Anafa Shay, Daniel Shin, Melissa Simon, Puneet Singh, Soonkang Soh, Keiko Sutton, Christina Theodorakos, Kerri Thorne, Carolien Van Eeghen, Jennifer Vasquez, Diana Villate, Saira Waheed, Raina Wallens, Julie Weiss, Megan Westerberg, Noa Yaghoubian, Saehee Yom, David Yoon, Svetlana Zakharchenko, Fawzia Zawahir, and Runzhi Zhang

Premium Members

Sustaining Members

Peter Ardito, Adam Berryann, Susan Golden, William Grogan, Elaine Rho, Kevin Wilson, Nini Wong, and Emily Yang

Lifetime Member

Karen Lee

Financial Supporters

May 24, 2022-August 22, 2022

\$1-\$200 Donations Received

Amazon Smile Foundation, Margaret Browar, Berton and Evelyn Greenberg, Thomas and Janice Jacobs, Pledgling Foundation, Primoris Academy, Avishai Shoham, and Zing

Donations Received in Memory of

James, Pat and Gene Yuzawa in Memory of George Yuzawa

Jeff Toonkel in memory of Margot Fine

Charlene & Jerry Andrewlavage in memory of Eleanor Hoffmann

Animal Ambassador Sponsors

T. Baldwin Demarest raised over \$6,000 to support TNC's Ambassadors

Namil Cho, Andrea Robins, and Candice Tse

Elisheva Cohn in honor of Talia Cohn

Simona Aguiard in honor of Tal Aguiard

Butterfly House Sponsors

Mark Aiello, Mark Erdtmann, Stacey Goldberg, Susan Goldfarb Grossman, Jung Kim, Olga Milanos, AJ Schuster, Tenafly Rotary Club, Garin Toren, Philip Watts, and Emily Yang



MAKING TNC A BETTER PLACE - SCOUTS SERVING TNC

Tenaflly Nature Center continues to benefit from the dedication of local scouts, with several scouts working on service projects at Tenaflly Nature Center. Each of these scouts has big plans and ideas on how to help our community, but they all need our support to make them happen.

If you are interested in helping support any of our current or future service projects, please consider a donation. Be sure to note "Scout Service" in the notes/memo. Any contributions will be greatly appreciated!



ONGOING BSA EAGLE PROJECTS AND GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARDS.

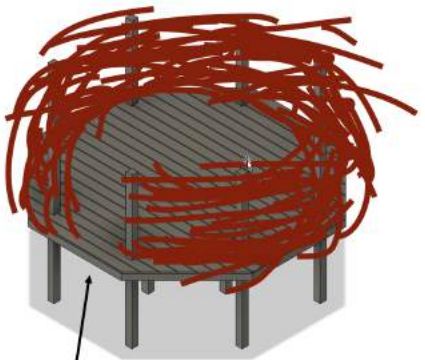
Nathaniel Veit

Life Scout from Boy Scout Troop #206 in River Vale, NJ



I am currently working on my Eagle Project: a life-sized eagle nest that kids and adults can interact with by walking in and exploring. The goal of my project is to teach people about the importance of Bald Eagles and the continued need to protect them.

When my project is fully constructed, it will be used as an educational space for kids in various programs offered at the nature center and for families to come and visit. I plan to put in interactive signage and information about this protected species. I hope that this project will be at the nature center for generations to come.



Entrance to the nest
Drawing of the nest when it is fully built with the stick in place

In my opinion, the Tenaflly Nature Center is the most unique nature center I have visited. The wide range of programs offered here and the many existing unique structures make it an amazing place to visit. I believe my project will be most beneficial here since it aligns with the mission statement of the Center.

Kacey McNamara

Girl Scout from Hoboken, NJ

This summer, I have been working towards my Gold Award, the highest award a Girl Scout can earn. For my project, I'm partnering with the Tenaflly Nature Center to repair the outdoor classroom space on the red trail.

For a long time, this space has been in a state of disrepair to the point of being unusable, with its solid concrete benches sunk deep into the mud and unable to be sat upon. The space was placed next to the local brook with the intention of being used to study it, but its location has led to frequent flooding. This flooding means that for much of the year, the space is constantly full of mud, leading the benches to sink down into the ground until they can no longer be comfortably used.

My goal with this project is to lead a team to relocate the outdoor classroom space uphill in a way that it may retain its beneficial proximity to the stream, but will no longer experience the frequent flooding which has proved to be an issue with its use. As someone who



cares very deeply about both nature and education, and who has very little access to nature in my own hometown of Hoboken, I am very enthusiastic about using my skills to provide a space for others to discover a love for nature in the same way I have. I'm especially thrilled to be working with TNC as I have very fond memories of attending events for the Girl Scouts at the center myself when I was younger, and I'm very glad to have the opportunity to keep the center's efforts at education going.

Olivia Burchell

Girl Scout from Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ

For my Gold Award, I am raising awareness about tree identification and why this is so important, especially within our nature center here in Tenaflly. At first, this topic sounds a little silly and even unimportant. I was asked by my Girl Scouts representative why I chose this over an endangered species, or preserving a habitat, or something that we commonly hear about protecting. However, the skill of recognizing trees and understanding why they are so

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A Look Back at Summer Cont.

level of dedication because they wanted campers to experience the same camp fun that they had at their age.

New this summer was a Jr. CIT program for 8th graders. Jr. CITs were placed with our youngest campers to act as mentors similar to a big brother/ big sister.

Summer camp is the largest program TNC offers and it could not run smoothly without the help of our volunteers. We are very appreciative of all their hard work and dedication. Many CITs even extended their volunteer hours because they didn't want to leave. If you know any interested freshman-seniors for 2023 who need volunteer hours, love working with children, or want to spend their days outside



hiking the trails, please have them apply with us at TenafllyNC.org/Counselors-in-Training!

We are thrilled to say our camp has been gaining interest across communities as word of mouth has been spreading from past camp families to new ones!

Registration for Pre-K through 2nd grade was completely full by March 2022 - which was a first for us. If patterns continue, we recommend signing up as early as possible to guarantee a spot for your child.

If you are unsure if TNC's Nature Day Camp is for you, we also run school break camps throughout the year. School break camps run as single day options, so they are a perfect way to test the waters!



Outdoor School Break Day Camps

When school is out, kids in Pre-K-6th grade can keep learning and have fun too! Children will explore Tenaflly Nature Center woods and trails, make crafts, share stories and play games while learning about the environment. Each camp enjoys seasonal activities allowing campers to come to every session with a brand new experience! Children in 7th-8th grade may sign up to be a Jr. CIT.

Celebrate Fall Camp

Monday, September 26,
Tuesday, September 27,
Wednesday, October 5, and
Monday, October 10

Autumn Break Camp

Thursday, November 10 and
Friday, November 11

Winter Break Camp

Monday, December 26-
Friday, December 30

MLK Day Camp

Monday, January 16

February Break Camp

Friday, February 23 and
Monday, February 20-
Friday, February 24

Spring Break Camp

Monday, April 3-Friday, April 7

2023 SUMMER DAY CAMP



The 2023 summer camp year will run June 26th-September 1st for Pre-K through 8th grade. For older children, please remember that we accept high school volunteers (CITs) for each week of summer camp.



Summer Registration Opens

December 1

**Sustaining, Patron, &
Benefactor Members**

January 1

**Family & Family Plus
Members**

February 28

Early Bird Discount Ends

For more information visit our website at TenafllyNC.org/Camp-Summer this fall!



Half Day (Pre-K/K only)

9:00 am-12:00 pm or
12:00 pm-3:00 pm

Full Day

9:00 am-3:00 pm

Space is limited and **online pre-registration is required at TenafllyNC.org/School-Break-Camp**

Upcoming Adult & Family Programs

**All programs require pre-registration for yourself and your “guests”
Visit TenafllyNC.org/Seasonal-Programs for complete information and to register**

Nature Story Time



3rd Saturday of the month
**September 17, October 15, and
November 19**
10:00-10:30 am

Families with children ages 3-7 will enjoy a nature-themed story and a visit from one of Tenaflly Nature Center's Animal Ambassadors. Learn about the animal and how they came to Tenaflly Nature Center. A new story and animal are featured each month. Animals may include snakes, frogs, turtles, owls or a hawk.

Apple Cider Making



**Sundays, September 18, 25;
October 2, 9, 16, 23**
2:00-3:00 pm or 3:30-4:30 pm

Tenaflly Nature Center will provide the apples and the press, but we will need you to help provide the rest. Learn about the history of apple cultivation and cider making and experience one of the original ways of making fresh, crisp apple cider! Feel free to bring a few apples of your favorite cultivar; more apples means more cider!

Fall Equinox Night Hike and Campfire



Friday, September 23
6:30-8:30 pm

Celebrate the changing season at TNC with a night hike, followed by a toasty campfire with s'mores!

Forest Defenders

2nd & 4th Sunday of the month
**September 25; October 9, 23;
November 13, 27; December 11**
2nd & 4th Wednesday of the month
**September 28; October 12, 26;
November 9, 23; December 14, 28**
10:00 am-12:00 pm

The Tenaflly Nature Preserve is under invasion and we need your help! A variety of non-native plants have been encroaching into our forest causing harm to native plants and reducing our biodiversity. These various plants referred to as Invasive Species can cause myriad damage if left unchecked, from toxifying soil to shading out native plants. For the forest ecosystem to continue functioning, these invaders must be removed.

Help the Tenaflly Nature Center eradicate these pesky plants twice a month with the Forest Defenders! Defenders will learn to identify different invasive species and work with our Land Manager to implement various removal techniques.

Nature Journaling



Sunday, September 25
10:00-11:00 am

Adults and children ages 10 and up can join artist James Van Gelder for Nature Journaling. An illustrated Nature Journal is a combination of art, nature and science. It combines writing with images as a means of recording observations and stimulating inquiry. This workshop will introduce participants to this unique way to experience the natural world. Geared for all levels of ability- from novice to artist- we'll use illustration as a tool for exploration; all that is needed is interest.

Crafty Critters



1st Saturday of the month
**October 1, November 5,
December 3; 2:00-3:00 pm**

Meet a live animal and explore your creative and crafty side! After an up close visit with one of Tenaflly Nature Center's Animal Ambassadors, we'll utilize our imaginations and create an artistic version of our new animal friend. A perfect activity for adults and children who enjoy their artistic side!

Tree Scavenger Hunt



Sunday, October 2
10:00-11:00 am

Enjoy the start of fall with this fun filled program for adults and families with children 4 and up. This program is in support of a local Girl Scout as she pursues her Gold Award. Proceeds from this program will go to support her efforts to build a new educational display all about trees.

Knee High Naturalists

10 session series



Mondays, October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31; November 7, 14, 21, 28; December 5

or

Tuesdays, October 4, 11, 18, 25; November 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; December 7

10:30-11:15 am

Young children, **2-4 years old, with an adult**, will explore the natural world through a series of topics lead by an Environmental Educator. Each week has a different focus emphasizing working together through discovery stations, songs and journeys outside.

Haunted Forest

- What friendly creatures haunt the TNC woods -

Sunday, October 30
Tours depart every 15 minutes between
3:30-6:30 pm

TenafllyNC.org/Haunted-Forest

Arrive early or come after dark and meet several live nocturnal animals on a sensory walk along our trails. Learn about animal senses and then test your own sensory skills. Tenaflly Nature Center Environmental Educators will guide small groups along the nature center trails. **Designed to be entertaining and educational (not scary)**, tours take 1.5 hours. After the tour, participants can enjoy refreshments and crafts around the campfire.

Sunset Meditation

Sunday, October 2
6:00-7:00 pm

Join Tania from Sacred Spaces Meditation for a quiet evening of inclusive community for adults looking to enhance their spiritual life and overall well-being. Sacred Space is a wellness center specializing in meditation, sound healing, and spiritual development.

Their teachings are inspired by the energy and healing benefits of both eastern and western philosophies. While there are countless techniques, the essence of all meditation is the same: learning to be in the present moment and finding a connection to expanded consciousness.

Seasonal Scavenger Hunt

2nd Weekend of the month
Saturday, October 8 or
Sunday, October 9
Saturday, November 12 or
Sunday, November 13
Saturday, December 10 or
Sunday, December 11

Check in 1:00-2:00 pm at the Visitors' Center to receive clues
Scavenger Hunt may be completed at any time

Families will receive a set of clues to independently solve nature riddles along Tenaflly Nature Center trails, with each family working as a team as they hike to complete the hunt.

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Nature Adventures Puppet Show



October 9, November 13
10:00-10:30 am

Laugh, sing, and play with our puppet friends! Families with children ages 2-8 will enjoy this nature-themed puppet show. Learn about plants, animals, and all things outdoors. A new story is featured each month, themed around seasonal changes.

Full Moon Hike for Adults

Sunday, October 9,
6:30-8:30 pm
Sunday, November 6,
5:30-7:30 pm
Saturday, December 10,
5:00-7:00 pm

Experience a guided 1½-2 hour walk (approximately 1½ miles) along the trails, on a night near the occurrence of a full moon. This peaceful hike encourages reflection and connection with nature, allowing hikers to experience the trails after dark.

Remarkable Raptors



Sunday, November 5
2:00-3:00 pm

Adults and families with children ages 5 and up will meet a live hawk and owl and discover how amazing birds of prey are! Discover what specifically makes a bird a raptor while learning about diurnal and nocturnal adaptations and how these amazing birds utilize their senses to locate and obtain their prey.

The Magic of Making: Fabricating for Fairies

Saturday, November 12
12:00-1:30 pm

Fairies have come to Tenaflly Nature Center and now you can bring the magic home. Join a TNC Environmental Educator to explore the Fairy Trail and build fairy houses of your very own. Natural construction materials and a recycled milk carton base to be built onto will be provided.



Guests are welcome to bring their own base for their fairy houses, as well as their own natural materials for construction.

Winter Solstice Campfire & Night Hike



Saturday, December 17
5:00-7:00 pm

Celebrate the changing season at TNC with a night hike, followed by a toasty campfire with s'mores!



AFTERSCHOOL NATURE ENRICHMENT SERIES

Nature Enrichment is an immersive program that emphasizes outdoor activities encouraging children to form a love and respect for nature that will last forever.

Age-appropriate STEAM education concepts will be woven into the program using nature as a teaching tool.



Nature Explorers

6 sessions
Tuesdays, October 11, 18, 25;
November 1, 8, 15
(Rain dates: November 22, 29)
4:00-5:30 pm

Students in **K-2nd grade** will experience what happens in the forest ecosystem during autumn. Through discovery students will learn about adaptations and processes that occur throughout our natural world with topics such as food webs, habitats, and metamorphosis!

Sessions may feature stories, hikes, experiments, hands-on activities, games, artifacts and LIVE animal encounters.

Nature Ecologist

6 sessions
Wednesdays, October 12, 19, 26;
November 2, 9, 16
(Rain dates: November 23, 30)
4:00-5:30 pm

Students in **3rd-5th grade** will delve into ecosystems and assess the diversity and behavior of the different organisms within them. Student ecologists will explore our amazing planet in depth through investigation of artifacts, playing games and hands-on activities.

Sessions may feature hikes, hands-on activities, games, experiments, artifacts and LIVE animal encounters.

GIVING AND GAINING - How TNC Teaches Volunteers

With almost 400 acres to oversee, 40,000+ people who wish to utilize the space annually, and many unpredictable factors that affect us daily, a nature preserve like Tenaflly Nature Center requires many ingredients to ensure its mission is a success annually.

Not only do we need a base of fantastic, knowledgeable, and caring staff, filled with individuals who truly want to help make a difference, but the recipe will not work without a dash of some amazing and dedicated volunteers and interns. These individuals are willing to volunteer, give their time and energy, help keep the doors open, enable staff to deliver vital programs and services, lend their expertise on the board of directors, assist in fundraising campaigns and special events, and work in direct customer service roles.

While TNC does get a lot of assistance from its volunteers, many of these individuals do also get something back from TNC. Learning and gaining valuable experience while they work with our knowledgeable staff, volunteers and interns find TNC to be a space where volunteering is good for the mind and body, as it can help increase self-confidence and help them to stay physically healthy.

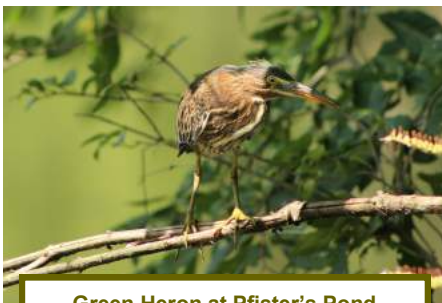
The individuals who probably get the most back from TNC are our annual student interns. Internships are for high school and college students who are interested in learning more about working in a non-profit, gaining hands-on experience while helping our staff in one mission based capacity or another, and for those willing to give several months of their time.

This summer TNC had two land and facilities interns, Jessica Ruggiero and Jon Febre, and one education intern, Richie Denicola.

Jessica Ruggiero and Jon Febre

To begin, we want to say we thoroughly enjoyed our time as land and facilities interns at the nature center. We both came across this opportunity in different manners. I, Jessica, found this internship through the climate change program at FDU. And Jon used to come here as child, and while searching for summer internships, came across the land and facility internship opportunity.

We both have a great interest in biology, environmental science/studies, and wilderness/nature conservation, and figured this would be a great place to learn more. Some expectations coming into this opportunity included



Green Heron at Pfister's Pond
Photo taken by Jessica Ruggiero

gaining knowledge of NJ invasive plant species, their ecological impacts, how to properly remove them, and the importance of nature conservation. We learned a lot about local flora and fauna on the preserve, and a lot about the ecological impacts that come along with invasive plant species. We also have learned a lot about the animals that reside on the preserve. Alex Braunstein, TNC's Land and Facilities Manager, has taught us a lot of these things, and additional things as well, such as how to care for the animals, how to use certain tools, new software like Avenza Maps and the forest regeneration simulator, and more.

We are both interested in the Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Department of Environmental Protection, and if either of us work at these facilities in the future, the information we have learned here will be useful. Jessica is also interested in education as well, and this information will be useful in teaching science students in the future.



Wood Frog
Photo take by Jon Febre

We have learned that it takes a village to run a small non-profit like the Tenaflly Nature Center, and the work done here is a very important part of society. Aside from this, we have enjoyed photographing the beautiful wildlife and nature found on the preserve.

Richie Denicola

My name is Richie Denicola and I am a graduating senior at Montclair State University, getting my bachelor's degree in Public Health. As a requirement, I am taking a class called "Internship & Culminating Seminar" which aims to give students real world experience in the field right before

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SCOUTS SERVING TNC CONTINUED

crucial is critical to promoting biodiversity and protecting our nature center.

The first aspect of my project will be a display board conveniently located on the path towards the Visitors' Center. On this board, you will find pictures of common trees that you will see while walking around the nature center. There will also be bits of information about each tree, potential identifiers (such as a certain type of leaf shape or nut), and a scannable QR code that will lead you to a page on the Tenaflly Nature Center website providing you with even more information. My goal is to create a display that is appealing and interesting for a vast age range of visitors, and providing information from types of leaves to look for to their role in our local ecosystem allows me to accomplish this. I plan

to construct this display board myself with sustainable materials that will last through the harsh New Jersey seasons so we can enjoy it for years to come.

The second part of my project will be an interactive scavenger hunt. This is an activity more suited for a younger crowd, and will aim to have them connect tree identifiers to an actual tree. For example, they will use their newfound knowledge of the fact that pin oak trees have pointed tips to identify a Pin Oak on the trail. Once they spot the type of tree, they can check it off on their checklist and search for the next one. This is a fun, interactive way to get kids excited about learning about trees while simultaneously getting them outside and exploring nature—a true win-win. I am also planning a day where I offer this scavenger hunt on



a guided hike while discussing the importance of my project and understanding the species types of trees and their importance. Overall, I'm ecstatic to work with the Tenaflly Nature Center for my Gold Award and create an informative, sustainable project that I'm passionate about for us all to enjoy.

Looking to do an Eagle Scout Project or Girl Scout Gold Award?

TNC has projects that need your help TenafllyNC.org/Service-Projects



UPCOMING MERIT BADGE WORKSHOPS

TNC instructors are registered Merit Badge Counselors

Fish and Wildlife Management

**Sunday, September 25
9:30 am-2:00 pm**



In this program intended for members of Scouts BSA, learn about fish and wildlife management and conservation and why they are important. With a little pre-study, requirements 1-4, 6a and 8 will be completed. Requirements 5 and 7

must be completed by Scouts in preparation for the workshop. We will discuss the requirements and walk on the trails at the Tenaflly Nature Center to observe and record wildlife species.

Insect Study

**Saturday, October 15
9:30 am-2:00 pm**



In this program intended for members of Scouts BSA, learn about insect populations and the role they play in a balanced ecosystem, as well as the different classes of arthropods, insect life cycles, and the ways insects are managed. With some prerequisites

completed, this merit badge will be completed in the workshop.

Environmental Science

**Sunday, November 13
9:30 am-3:00 pm**



In this program intended for members of Scouts BSA, scouts will meet the requirements for the Environmental Science Merit Badge with some prerequisites completed prior to the workshop. Learn more about protecting nature by understanding how it works.

How TNC Teaches Volunteers Continued

graduation. I am looking to work in the field of environmental conservation, and I couldn't think of a better place to start than the Tenaflly Nature Center.

This would be a very new experience for me since these were the first steps I've taken into the field. I was hoping to learn as much as I could about working at a non-profit nature center, and how this role could be used to help the environment. The staff at Tenaflly Nature Center were extremely welcoming and accommodating, doing everything they could to make sure I was getting what I wanted from this opportunity. I've learned a lot about the harm that invasive species can cause to our environment, and seen how TNC is working to get them under control. I was given the opportunity to assemble a brochure to raise awareness for "Backyard Certified Wildlife Habitats," which is a way that members of the community can help protect and restore the



environment from their own backyards.

I really enjoyed seeing how much they involve the community in their mission, and just how fun they can make it. I believe there is a lot of potential for change the more we come together, and TNC does a wonderful job of presenting that through their many programs. One of their biggest programs is their summer camp, where children get a week of education and tons of fun. Environmental Education programs were the thing that sparked my passion for the environment as a kid, and helping TNC pass the torch onto the next generation has been heartwarming to be a part of. I also got to have some hands-on

experience with animals, which has always been a dream of mine. I learned to handle and care for a variety of animals including snakes, lizards, frogs, and my personal favorite: the terrapins. It showed me that working with animals might be more than an interest, and could be a potential career path. Working at a small non-profit like TNC can have its challenges, but the staff are quick to do what they can to keep things running as smoothly and efficiently as possible. It comes from them being a tightly-knit team with excellent communication, and a strong passion for the work they do. It has shown me more than any other job how much value there is in teamwork, and how fulfilling it can be to work with others who share the same goals as you. I definitely won't forget the experiences I got to have here, and look forward to returning again someday!

THANK YOU JESSICA, JON, AND RICHIE FOR ALL YOUR HELP THIS YEAR AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR VISITS!



Thank You TNC Volunteers

IN ADDITION, TO THESE AMAZING SEASONAL INTERNS WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE HELP PROVIDED BY THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS THIS PAST SEASON

Ela Algar, Benjamin Amos, Bruce Balsam, BSA Troop 1200 (Dharanish K., Stevie K., Gavin G., Emanuel Mojica), Gigi Burns, Rose Murphy-Braunstein, Barbara Braunstein, Rory Brett, George Botros, Luke Brown, Craig Carvalho, Cerene Charles-McFadden, Ian Choi, Inmong Choi, Sophia Chounoune, Kelly Chu, Riley Cirminiello, Richie Denicola, Maxwell Deng, Rachel Disler, Sophia Dzemidavets, Peter Emmi, Jon Febre, Marlyn Friedberg, Ava

Fryer, Masue Eida, Takayoshi Eida, Katherine Frink-Hamlett, Susan Golden, Alexa Hermanns, Andrew Hong, Ashly Hong, Ethan Hong, Martha Hucks, Youngok Huh, Greta Jennings, Saule Juskelyte, Justin Kang, Elizabeth Kim, Jieun Kim, Zach Kim, Yoshie Konno, Kevin Kuznetzow, Dan Lambert, Katarina Lambert, Ella Lasky, Hyuk Lee, Kayla Lee, Samantha Lee, Paul Lefkowitz, Jessica Lichtenstein, Derek Lim, Emma Lin, Maggie Liv, Nelle Mades, Phyllis and Victor Merriam, Andrew Mikesh, Nicholas Minnetian, Mumtaz Mir, MOM's Organic Market (Kristen Keenan, Jessica Pagano, Ynneayel De los Santos) Jane Murphy, Daniel

Nachum, Marissa Norshaini, Julianna Nunez, Jessica Pagano, Elliot Perna, Guy Persitz, Anne Picogna, Gavin Porro, Madison Potash, Barbara Res, Elaine Rho, Rita Rodin, Jessica Ruggiero, Eric Ruiz, Tomir Sawicki, Breiny Scheinert, Jack Skoultchi, Nicholas Spelda, Ava Sung, Abdullah Tatida, Wendi Thompson, Peter Tilgner, Lauren Tse, Nini Wong, David Yang, Emily Yang, Gladys Yang, Orr Yehezkel, Joshua Yoon, Leena Zhu, and Naoufal Zouak

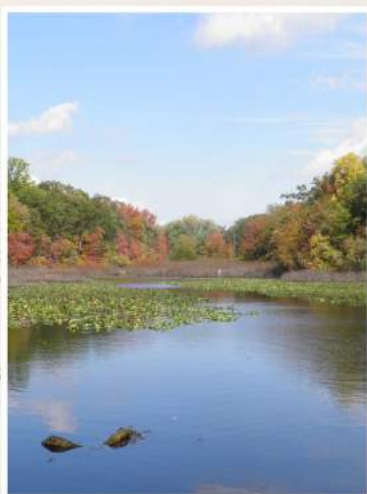
Looking to volunteer at TNC?

Visit TenafllyNC.org for on-going volunteer needs!



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Turkey Trot 5k
Sunday, November 27
9:00 am & 11:00 am

Join the FUN
Start your Holiday
Season off right with a
fun 5K Run & Walk.

**All levels of
competition welcome!**