Camp registration now available ONLINE!

2019 Summer NATURE Camps

Piney Run & Bear Branch

Come explore with us!

A service of Carroll County Department of Recreation & Parks
Summer Nature Camps in Carroll County

Bear Branch Nature Center and Piney Run Nature Center are part of Carroll County Department of Recreation & Parks, in the Bureau of Parks. Both Nature Centers are staffed with one full-time Naturalist.

Bear Branch Summer Nature Camp is held at Hashawha Environmental Appreciation Center and Bear Branch Nature Center, located in the northern region of Carroll County just north of the city of Westminster.

Piney Run Summer Nature Camp is held at Piney Run Park & Nature Center located in the southern region of the county near the town of Sykesville.

ONLINE REGISTRATION now available for the 2019 Summer Nature Camps!

Thank you for sharing your children with us this summer!

Piney Run STAFF
410-795-6043
Deb Rottman,
Park Superintendant
Max Bukowitz,
Naturalist

Bear Branch STAFF
410-386-3580
Dawn Harry,
Park Operations Coord.
Nicole Bowman
Naturalist

Bears Branch Camp Info ................. Page 5
(for Ages 6-11)

Piney Run Camp Info ..................... Pages 3-4
(for Grades K-6)

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(for Grades 6-10)

Nature Center Membership

Members of either the Piney Run Recreation and Conservation Council and/or the Friends of Hashawha/Bear Branch play an important role in providing additional financial and volunteer support for their respective facilities. As a Nature Center member, you receive discounts on nature shop items, mailing of the quarterly Recreation & Parks Program Guide listing programs offered at both Nature Centers and at various other locations throughout Carroll County, as well as an invitation to exclusive Members-Only programs. Use the Nature Center Membership form on page 2 to apply for your 2019 membership. This Nature Center Membership is NOT the same as a Park Vehicle Season Pass for Piney Run Park.

NOTE: To be eligible for the early Members Only Registration dates as well as any Summer Camp discounts for programs listed in this booklet, your current* membership must be one of the following: Family or Lifetime (Senior, Full Time Student, and Individual memberships do not qualify for Summer Nature Camp benefits).

NEW: Your membership is valid through the calendar year in which you purchased it.i.e.: 2019 memberships are valid January 2019 through December 2019. You must already have a 2019 membership at the time of submitting your camp registration or it will be returned to you as not eligible (see form on page 2).

The Americans with Disabilities Act applies to the Carroll County Government and its programs, services, activities and facilities. Anyone requiring an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication or who has a complaint should contact The Department of Citizen Services, 410.386.3600 or 1.888.302.8978, or MD Relay 7-1-1/1.800.735.2258, as soon as possible but no later than 72 hours before the scheduled event.
IMPORTANT REGISTRATION INFORMATION
Registrations will be processed on a first-come, first-serve basis with FULL PAYMENT. Since our summer camps fill quickly, we highly recommend you register early. Parents must fully complete the Carroll County Dept. of Recreation & Parks Registration Form (use a separate form for each child) on page 6 or register online at ccrecpark.org. Incomplete forms will NOT be accepted until they are fully completed delaying your child’s enrollment in camp. Use program numbers listed under each week of camp.

⇒ Registration begins for Nature Center Members on February 1st for Piney Run & March 8th for Bear Branch. (Members may not register Non-members).
⇒ Registration begins for all Non-members on March 16th for Piney Run & March 15th for Bear Branch.
⇒ Forms that are postmarked before February 1 (PRNC) or March 8 (BBNC) (Members), or March 16 (PRNC) or March 15 (BBNC) (Non-members) will be returned to sender.

CONFIRMATION
Parents whose child is registered in Camp will be mailed a camp packet containing additional forms for completion, and important camp information. Please hold onto camp information until your child complete his/her full camp session. If your registration is received after a camp is filled, you will be notified and added to that camp’s wait list. The payment will be returned in full if your child cannot be placed. Should an applicant withdraw from camp, substitutes from that camp’s wait list will be contacted at that time.

PINEY RUN CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS
A limited number of scholarships are available for those qualifying for financial assistance for a Piney Run Camp week. Contact PRNC for an application as soon as possible; scholarship application deadline is May 1, 2019.

REFUNDS
◆ If your child cannot be placed, your full amount paid will be refunded.
◆ If a camper withdraws at least 10 days prior to camp start date, a refund will be provided less a 20% administrative fee.
◆ If a camper withdraws less than 10 days prior to camp start date, NO refund will be issued, no exceptions.
◆ No refunds will be issued if your child/ren is dismissed from camp for behavioral problems.
◆ Some camp weeks have minimum enrollment requirements. If, for any reason, these minimums are not reached, then the specific camp in question could be canceled. In such case, a full refund will be processed.

WHO CAN ATTEND
Piney Run Summer Nature Camp is for GRADES Kindergarten thru 6th (completed by June 2019). Bear Branch Summer Nature Camp is for AGES 6-11. Campers cannot be placed ahead or behind their grade level—no exceptions. For your preschool aged children, please see our Preschool Discovery Week listed in the Carroll County Recreation & Parks 2019 Summer Program Guide at ccrecpark.org (released mid-April). For teens in grades 7th-10th, see page 4 of this brochure for the Department of Recreation & Parks “Teens on the Go!” program offerings.

OUR STAFF
All groups will have a maximum of 20 campers per age group and are supervised by a qualified Senior Counselor, a high school or college aged Junior Counselor, and 1 to 3 volunteers.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION
Piney Run Summer Nature Camp is a non-profit day camp dedicated to promoting thoughts of awareness and appreciation of the natural environment through fun, educational programs and activities. Located within Piney Run Park, the Camp offers children an opportunity to explore woodlands, fields, streams and lake shore habitats in a well-supervised environment.

**GROUP K thru GROUP 3**
Nature Center MEMBER: $135 / Non-Member: $160 Per Week

**GROUP K** - those finishing Kindergarten:
Theme - Diversity of Animals
Campers will be learning about reptiles, amphibians, birds, mammals, fish and insects, and our role in protecting them.

- Week 1 program #19PR1-GrpK
- Week 2 program #19PR2-GrpK
- Week 3 program #19PR3-GrpK
- Week 4 program #19PR4-GrpK

**GROUP 1** - those finishing 1st Grade:
Theme - The Earth
Campers will be learning about the natural treasures found on earth including rocks and minerals, fossils, volcanoes, and weather, as well as plants and animals that depend on the earth.

- Week 1 program #19PR1-Grp1
- Week 2 program #19PR2-Grp1
- Week 3 program #19PR3-Grp1
- Week 4 program #19PR4-Grp1

**GROUP 2** - those finishing 2nd Grade:
Theme - World of Plants
Campers will be learning about plant life, from lily pads to trees, and their importance in nature and our survival.

- Week 1 program #19PR1-Grp2
- Week 2 program #19PR2-Grp2
- Week 3 program #19PR3-Grp2
- Week 4 program #19PR4-Grp2

**GROUP 3** - those finishing 3rd Grade:
Theme - Forest Habitat
Campers will be learning about the plants, animals and soils that bring together the forest here at Piney Run Park.

- Week 1 program #19PR1-Grp3
- Week 2 program #19PR2-Grp3
- Week 3 program #19PR3-Grp3
- Week 4 program #19PR4-Grp3

**GROUP 4 and GROUP 5:**
Nature Center MEMBER: $145 / Non-Member: $170 Per Week

**GROUP 4** - those finishing 4th Grade:
Theme - Worlds of Water
Campers will be learning about the freshwater habitats in Piney Run Park. The focus will be on aquatic insects, fish, waterfowl and other animals that depend upon water.*

- Week 1 program #19PR1-Grp4
- Week 2 program #19PR2-Grp4
- Week 3 program #19PR3-Grp4
- Week 4 program #19PR4-Grp4

**GROUP 5** - those finishing 5th Grade:
Theme - Going Green
Campers will be learning about how to minimize their carbon footprint while protecting the environment around them. They will be introduced to ways of increasing green behaviors and habits.*

- Week 1 program #19PR1-Grp5
- Week 2 program #19PR2-Grp5
- Week 3 program #19PR3-Grp5
- Week 4 program #19PR4-Grp5

*In addition, Group 4 and Group 5 campers will stay until 9pm on Friday evening. This will include a campfire supper and evening activities.

Your camper will enjoy many activities beginning with daily morning ceremonies consisting of long-time Piney Run Summer Nature Camp songs that campers have enjoyed for years! Other activities will include nature lessons, canoeing (with the exception of Group K), hiking, nature games, crafts, Friday’s “Wilderness Wars” for Friday’s parent Show-offs! Campers will also go fishing and will learn to catch and release fish in a humane way. A detailed schedule of daily events will be sent to you prior to camp so that you can prepare for the fun!
**GROUP 6 - those finishing 6th Grade**

**Theme - Environmental Career Opportunities**

After exploring animals, earth, plants, forest habitat, water world, and going green—what’s next? Exploring career opportunities in the environmental field! While campers will still enjoy hiking, arts and crafts, and kayaking, they will also have the unique experience of hearing from a naturalist.

**Weeks 1 & 3 only (includes Friday night overnight stay):** Nature Center MEMBER $165 / Non-Member $190

In addition, Group 6 campers will enjoy a Friday night sleepover with the critters in the Nature Center. Those campers choosing not to participate in the sleepover must be picked up no later than 9pm Friday evening. Campers must provide their own sleeping bag, pillow and personal items. After the sleepover, pickup is 8am sharp Saturday morning.

- Week 1 program #19PR1-Grp6
- Week 3 program #19PR3-Grp6

**Weeks 2 & 4 only: Nature Center MEMBER $145 / Non-Member $170**

Camps must be picked up no later than 9pm on Friday evening. There is NO sleepover for week 2 & week 4.

- Week 2 program #19PR2-Grp6
- Week 4 program #19PR4-Grp6

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**Another year of fun and adventurous opportunities for GRADES 6th - 10th**

**Teens On The Go Summer 2019!**

We are planning exciting trips again for this summer.

The programs will run Monday thru Thursday, 8:30am-4:00pm unless otherwise noted in the final schedule, with up to 4 weeks to choose to participate. Some trips during the week may leave early or arrive later based on the destination.

The fees will vary with each week due to the nature and costs associated with the scheduled activities. Teens will need to pack lunch each day and bring a water bottle.

Activities planned, and registration and pricing information will be available in our Summer 2019 Program Guide to be released mid-April.

*If you would like to receive a copy of the camp schedule when it becomes available, please email bkinshter@carrollcountymd.gov*

- **June 17-June 20**
- **June 24-June 27**
- **July 15-July 18**
- **July 22-July 25**

We will also be offering some single day trips throughout the summer months!
This summer Bear Branch Nature Center is offering a variety of camps to provide summertime fun and environmental education for campers ages 6-11. Bear Branch is an ideal location for camp providing streams, meadows, forests and wetlands to explore. Campers will learn about nature, work on conservation projects, explore the park and participate in games, crafts and field trips.

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**WILD THINGS**  
Program #19BB-Wk1  
Ages 6-8  
June 25th-June 28th  
Tuesday-Friday  9am-3pm  
Hashawha can be a wild place! Campers will explore the fields and meadows of Hashawha. Through games and activities campers will learn more about plants and animals while having fun, too!

**WATER WORKS**  
Program #19BB-Wk2  
Ages 9-11  
July 9th-July 12th  
Tuesday-Friday  9am-3pm  
Intricate relationships exist between predators and their prey. Campers will investigate these relationships while exploring the forest and fields of Hashawha. Students will have the opportunity to learn more about food webs, ecosystems, and the potential impacts humans have had on these relationships.

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**WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE**  
Program #19BB-Wk3  
Ages 6-8  
July 16th - July 19th  
Tuesday-Friday  9am-3pm  
Campers will learn all about watery worlds during this exciting week of camp! We will walk through wetlands, explore streams and discover all the wonders of the waterways that make up Hashawha!

**HAPPENIN’ HERPS**  
Program #19BB-Wk4  
Ages 9-11  
July 23rd - July 26th  
Tuesday-Friday  9am-3pm  
Reptiles and amphibians are unique and amazing creatures, and Hashawha is a great place to find them! Campers will get the chance to delve into “herpetology,” the study of reptiles and amphibians. They will get the opportunity to observe these animals in their natural habitats and get a close-up view of Bear Branch Nature Center’s “creature collection.”

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**Carroll County Park Legacy Fund**

If you enjoy visiting our beautiful parks, become involved and help make them an even better place. Your tax deductible contribution can be earmarked to support specific parks or amenities such as playgrounds, benches, trees, nature centers, and more. Contributions are publicly recognized and gift donations on someone’s behalf are recognized with a card sent acknowledging the donation.

- Visit us at... http://ccgovemment.carr.org/parklegacyfund to print a Park Legacy Fund brochure and return via US Mail or drop off at the R&P office M-F, 8am-5pm; OR
- Call R&P 410-386-2103 to have a form mailed to you, or even to make a credit card donation (Visa, MC, Discover) in any increment of $25, $50 or $100; OR
- Visit the R&P office located at 300 S. Center Street, Westminster; OR
- Use the registration form at the back of this brochure with any size donation via payment by check.
**HOW TO REGISTER**

**Online OR Phone It In:** Go to ccrecpark.org. Click the appropriate Program Guide icon (lower left corner) to view the pdf or print it out. You may continue on to our Registration Site by choosing the button, “Online Program Registration & Payment” where you can view all listings by category with their respective descriptions, add program(s) to your cart, and follow screen instructions to complete your transaction. Payment must be made at time of registration (Visa, MasterCard, Discover) -OR- call R&P 410-386-2103 Monday-Friday 8am-5pm, using your credit card. All online and phone registrations are processed immediately and payment confirmation is sent via email.

**Mail It In:** Complete registration form and mail along with your check (payable to Carroll County Commissioners) to address noted on the bottom of the form (NO cash/credit card payments via mail). Provide all information requested on the form to ensure prompt processing. No confirmation will be sent; your canceled check is your receipt.

**Walk It In:** You may register in person Monday-Friday 8am-5pm with cash, credit card, or check payment at Carroll County Department of Recreation & Parks, located in the Robert Moton Center, 300 S. Center Street, Westminster.

Registrations of all types (phone, online, mail, or in person) are processed in the order in which we receive accurately completed forms and correct fees.

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**REGISTRATION FORM**

Participant’s LAST Name____________________________________ FIRST_______________________________

Parent/Guardian (if applicable)_____________________________________________________________________

Street Address__________________________________________________________________________________

City____________________________________________ State________________  Zip______________________

Phone: Home____________________________________ Work or Cell__________________________________

E-mail address_________________________________________    Participant’s Date of Birth_________________

Emergency Contact Name_____________________________  Emergency Phone____________________________

**Waiver of Liability:** By my signature below, I acknowledge that there are inherent risks and dangers associated with recreation programs, that Carroll County Recreation & Parks does not provide any registrant medical or hospitalization insurance whatsoever, and therefore, I hold Carroll County Commissioners and their agents harmless from all claims of injury, damage, or loss which may result from my, or my child(ren)’s participation in the program/s listed below.

**Authorization for Use of Photographic Likeness:** I agree to allow Carroll County Recreation & Parks to take and utilize photographic images of the registered individual/s for the purpose of promotion and publicizing of the Department programs and/or events. If I prefer to not allow the above registered participant/s to be photographed, I will call 410-386-2103 to register my request.

Signature____________________________________    Date ____/____/____

Participant’s Signature (Parent/Guardian’s Signature if participant is under the age of 18)

**Program Name** | **Program #** | **#Attending** | **Per Person Fee** | **Total $**
---|---|---|---|---
1. | | | | |
2. | | | | |
3. | | | | |
4. | | | | |

Comments/Special Instructions:

SUBTOTAL: ____________

Membership discount applied —

**GRAND TOTAL**

Be sure to sign above!

Make checks payable to Carroll County Commissioners and mail to:

Carroll County Department of Recreation & Parks
300 South Center Street
Westminster, Maryland 21157

Save aStamp! register online ccrecpark.org or call 410-386-2103
Be sure to have an active membership to take advantage of EARLY REGISTRATION! (see page 1 for full details)

Piney Run Camp registration opens FEB 1st
Bear Branch Camp registration opens MAR 8th

Carroll County Department of Recreation and Parks
300 S. Center Street
Westminster, Maryland 21157

Carroll County, Maryland
A Great Place to Live, Work and Play!