



WOODFORD
Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge

NEWS & EVENTS

Office: (856) 983-3329, Ext. 1 Wildlife Hospital: (856) 983-3329, Ext. 2 Web Site: www.cedarrun.org

Family Rescues Baby Beaver



Our beaver kit, dubbed "Brillo" by Jeanne Woodford, has grown rapidly since arriving at the Refuge.

Photo credit: Ruth Brooks

As the waters rose in the "1000 year flood" the Markey and Klischies families walked over to survey the damage at New Freedom Road. For one small animal, it was a good thing they did.

The Rancocas Creek was swirling above its banks and racing under the bridge. Suddenly, ten year old Kaitlyn Klischies spotted a small brown form struggling to swim in the torrent. It was a baby beaver, too young to make it to shore. The families gasped as the tiny animal was swept under

the bridge, but it popped up on the other side and lodged against a pile of debris.

Quickly, Kaitlyn ran home for a net as her family kept an anxious watch over the baby. Fortunately, it managed to stay put and Kaitlyn's dad, Charles Klischies, was able to scoop the little beaver to safety.

After wrapping the shivering beaver kit in a towel Kaitlyn's aunt, Joan Markey, drove it to Woodford Cedar Run Refuge.

At the Refuge's wildlife hospital the beaver kit, estimated to be three weeks old, was warmed, examined and weighed. The baby's breathing was a little raspy, probably because it breathed in some creek water. Otherwise, it appeared to be unharmed.

Antibiotics were administered and warmed formula offered to the whimpering baby. It didn't take long for the little beaver to figure out how to grasp the bottle and it was soon sucking hungrily. With a full tummy, the exhausted youngster fell quickly

asleep.

Jeanne Woodford is caring for the kit, who is gaining rapidly. It needs to be fed every four hours around the clock, not an easy assignment. Also, it needs to be in water to defecate, making for frequent trips to the bathtub.

Jeanne has already introduced the beaver kit to the lake, where it paddles around and plays with bits of wood. This baby play teaches the dexterity needed for dam and lodge building.

Young beavers stay with their parents for a year. Jeanne hoped to find the lodge it came from, but that was a faint hope after the flood. Since socialization is key to mammalian development she will search for a wildlife rehabilitation center that has another beaver kit to provide company for the Medford baby.

If all goes well, the kit will be returned to the wild next summer. Although it won't remember the caring people who rescued it from the flood of 2004, the Klischies and the Markeys will long remember the day they saved a special little animal from disaster.

Bird-a-Thon Trek

By Joe Costanza

The 21st World Series of Birding is now history and for many teams it was a disappointing day. Birds were hard to find. Maybe it was the hot weather, or perhaps loss of habitat or maybe even the effects of the West Nile virus. Whatever the reasons, this year's total was substantially less than in previous years.

Our team, the Cedar Run Runners, identified 113 species in Burlington County, compared

(See **TREK** on page 2)



Cedar Run Runners team members Cliff Jones, Melanie Reding and Joe Costanza, hot on the trail of an elusive songbird. The team's big day brought in more than \$5,300 to support the Refuge.

Convenience for Callers

Cedar Run has a new phone system with a single number: 856-983-3329. Callers press #1 for the education and administrative departments and #2 for the wildlife rehabilitation hospital. Directions to the Refuge can be heard by pressing #3.

Keeping the Arc Afloat

By Jeanne Woodford

We are often asked how the Woodford Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge is supported. We are also often asked why we can't respond to every call that comes in for the rescue of injured or orphaned animals. Some folks are actually indignant and comment, "What do you mean you can't respond; what are our tax dollars paying for?"

For some time now I have answered queries directed to me personally as to why I gave up such a valuable piece of property — approximately 170 acres — to the Woodford Cedar Run Wildlife Corporation, a non-profit organization.

My quick response: "My mother made me do it." Well, in a way she did by instilling in me a love of the natural world and a devotion to the land that comprises Cedar Run. I knew I wouldn't be able to sleep nights if I'd done otherwise.

Here we are seven years later with Green Acres applications and approvals way behind us. Our growth has been phenomenal in all areas of our three missions. Elizabeth Woodford would be so proud of where we've arrived educationally with two or three field trips happening simultaneously

some days, a summer camp program, outreach to schools and the community, thousands of visitors to our facility and on and on.

When wildlife was being raised in the Woodford's kitchen and garage before the construction of the animal hospital, no one would have ever dreamed that in 2003 we would be taking in more than 3,500 animals. Staff has, of course, increased in order to support all of our goals in rehabilitation and education, and we always seem to be playing catch-up with the budget to meet expenses.

We receive no funding from the state or county. Cedar Run supports itself through trustee support, memberships, donations with animal drop-offs, educational programs, grants, corporate sponsorships and special events.

How do we do it? We ask ourselves that question all the time and right now we find ourselves at the point where funding is at its seasonal low. Our staff and volunteers accomplish a great deal and we economize every where we can. Please think about making a special contribution to see that we can continue our good work

TREK *(continued from page 1)*

to 129 last year and 127 the year before that. Common birds like the tufted titmouse and white-breasted nuthatch eluded us all day. But as always, there were a few surprises.

Our day started at the Taylor Preserve in Cinnaminson. By daybreak we had counted 19 species

From there it was on to Palmyra Cove, where an early sighting of an American bittern in flight lifted our spirits. We left Palmyra with about 63 birds counted, but knew the rest of the day would be tough.

Brightview Farm remained a reliable site for bobolinks and other grassland species and an old cranberry bog near Chatsworth gave us a bald eagle, an osprey and about a dozen great egrets, as well as a full measure of pristine beauty.

New Gretna yielded the day's surprises. Searching the salt marshes and finding only the usual willet and

boat-tailed grackle, we decided to leave, but only after one more scan. A snowy egret flew over. Then a green heron was spotted perched on a snag. Soon after, we found a merlin on another snag and watched as it took flight after its quarry.

Our good luck continued on leaving New Gretna, when a wild turkey suddenly appeared alongside the roadway.

We ended the day at Cedar Run, tired, a bit disappointed, but satisfied. Our last bird was the whip-poor-will, whose persistent nocturnal song greeted us as we pulled into the parking lot.

Thanks to the generous support of many who pledged, we earned more than \$5,300 for Cedar Run. The work of the Refuge becomes more important each year and these contributions will help it to sustain the diversity and beauty of the natural world.

Cedar Run Refuge

Missions

- : To Rehabilitate Native Wildlife
- : To Educate about the Environment
- : To Preserve Pine Barrens Habitats

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Wine & Wildlife a Winner

By Cecilia Schmidt

The second annual Wine & Wildlife Festival was held at Cedar Run's education center on June 12. It was a fun evening of wine-tasting and social mingling with over 150 participants. Besides showing off the Refuge to these guests, we earned more than \$5,600 to support our missions.

Wines were kindly donated by the Bottle Stop of Marlton and hors d'oeuvres by Murphy's Markets. Mr.

and Mrs. Robert Barrett, the owners of Miel Patisserie of Cherry Hill, provided exquisite pastries and confections.

Bob Birdsall, local photographer and author of Seasons of the Pines, was on hand to do a personal book signing and photography exhibit. Special thanks and gratitude go to our presenting sponsor, Prudential Fox and Roach of Medford, for making the entire event possible.

This year the Wine & Wildlife party was the venue for the Refuge's annual Partners' Award, presented by Jeanne Woodford. Dr. Edward M. Sleeper, VMD, founder of the Mount Laurel Animal Hospital, was the 2004 recipient. Dr. Sleeper has had a long relationship with the Refuge and spoke eloquently about his respect for Betty Woodford.

The exciting climax

to the evening was the Chinese raffle with over two dozen prizes, plus a live auction. The live auction was generously supported by: Moore Brothers Wine Company, which donated a wine tasting seminar; Mary Carty, who donated a hand-crafted basket; Pinelands Preservation Alliance, which gave a print by botanical artist Robin Jess; and Robert Barrett, who contributed a gift basket of sweet treats from Miel Patisserie.

Thanks are extended to all our event sponsors, supporters and volunteers who make this evening such a successful affair.



Jeanne Woodford and Squam, the barred owl, welcome visitors to Wine & Wildlife on June 12.

Wine & Wildlife Sponsors

Prudential Fox & Roach
Lexus of Atlantic City
Environmental Resolutions, Inc.
Everland, Shourds & Associates, Inc.
McHale & Associates
Wild Bird Oasis
Columbia Bank
Davis and Mendelson
Saddlebrook Ridge Equestrian Center

Summer Camps Get Rave Reviews

On the first day of Super Swamp Safari parents arrived to pick up their youngsters and found them looking like commandos just back from the bush. This may have been daunting to

the mothers, but it was a big hit with the kids, who adored crawling through the muck in search of frogs and other wetlands life.

Responses to our evaluation forms included comments like "Excellent! He had a great time." and "He absolutely loved this week at camp – thanks."

Other camp sessions included Raptors, Reptiles and Mammals, Oh My; Crazy Critters; and Awesome Adventures. Polliwogs for younger children was so popular we opened two additional sessions and still turned people away.

Program coordinator Melanie Reding reports that we had a total of 112

campers this season, ranging from pre-schoolers to sixth graders. That's a huge increase over 2003 and a big target to shoot for next year.

For the first time we used college interns to staff the camp sessions. Emily Youngbear from Temple University led most sessions, assisted by CIT Andrea Schilling. Jillian Sico of St. John's College put in two weeks before heading off to work at an organic farm for the rest of the summer.

Refuge teacher-naturalist and pre-school expert Laura Allison captained two of the Polliwogs sessions, much to the delight of several returnees from previous years.

"We loved this!" wrote one mother, "We'll definitely come back."

Kudos to Melanie and her team, who are already planning more fun for 2005.



Counselor Emily Youngbaer and summer campers search the lakeshore for frogs.

Photo credit: Melanie Reding

Otter Update

Back in spring the Refuge took in an otter kit that had been abandoned by her mother. A little medical care and a lot of TLC soon had the baby thriving. However, Cedar Run lacked the one thing the kit needed most – other otters to socialize with.

An Internet search soon turned up Sally Beckwith, a Massachusetts rehabber who specializes in otters. Sally had years of otter experience and, even better, was caring for a youngster of nearly the same age.

So June 4 became the otter kit's last day at Cedar Run. Sally, who was returning from a conference in Washington, arrived with her baby otter in tow and introductions were arranged on a screened porch.

At first, the two otters appeared not to recognize each other as kindred souls, although they made the same vocalizations. However, it didn't take long for growls and grunts to change to happy chirps as the little otters tracked each other around chair legs.

Back in Massachusetts Beckwith swam with the kits in her pond and gradually ex-

panded their range, using a kayak to lead them up and down a nearby river. Vigorous physical activity is necessary if the young otters are to acquire the fitness required for survival in the wild.

Before long the pair of kits were ready for solid food and discovered that fact on their own by crunching down on their first crayfish.

The latest news from Massachu-

setts is good, according to our rehab manager, Ruth Brooks. The kits are growing well and exploring further afield.

When the young otters reach sub-adulthood, Sally will leave them on their own for longer and longer periods. One day, she says, they won't respond to her call, but only to the call of the wild.



The otter kit was only a about week old when he arrived at the Refuge, covered with nicks and ticks. Young otters stay with their parents for a year, so it will be next spring before he is out on his own.



Ben Shore of Boy Scout Troop 166 in Cherry Hill earned his Eagle Scout designation by constructing this new enclosure at the wildlife compound. Rascal the raccoon is very happy in his new home.

Photo credit: Mrs. Shore



About 20 people helped Ben Shore complete his Eagle Scout project. Organizing a group of volunteers and obtaining materials for a project are requirements for achieving the rank of Eagle. Says Ben, "I had a great time and thanks to all the volunteers who helped."

Ruminations on Rabbits

By Janet Jackson-Gould

As I pulled into the driveway, a trio of young bunnies scattered, each diving under a separate bush. I knew they were juveniles because older rabbits are essentially solitary and these three have been hanging around together for the past few weeks.

I love to see these cute creatures with their big, brown eyes and swiveling, hyperbolic ears. I like them so much I've ceded the vegetable garden to them, trading planting and hoeing for stops at the farm market. And I've given up on impatiens, although it may be the deer or groundhogs that are consuming those tasty flowers.

One evening I laughed at a pair of cottontails chasing and jinking across the pasture. The leader stopped and faced her pursuer and a brief sparring match ensued. All at once one of the rabbits leapt straight up into the air! Then the other sprang two feet straight up. Several high-jumps later, they got down to business – making little bunnies – and I left them to their privacy.

The saying "breeding like rabbits" is no joke. Cottontails are sexually mature at two-three months. Wild rabbits breed from mid-February through September and each doe has three or four litters each year. With an average of five babies per litter, that's a lot of bunnies. If no young were lost, a single pair of cottontails could produce an estimated 350,000 rabbits in five years.

Fortunately, nature is providing a surplus with all those little bunnies and many other animals survive because of them. Cottontails, especially babies, are preyed upon by hawks, owls, foxes, weasels and large snakes. Unfortunately, the predators we call pets – cats and dogs – also catch bunnies.

Cottontails are not ideal parents from a human point of view. A buck goes on to other conquests once mating occurs. After a gestation period of about 30 days, the doe scrapes a nest in a hollow under a shrub or in long grass. She lines it



Bunnies are left alone in their nest for most of the day. The mother rabbit returns at dusk and dawn to nurse her babies. The white spots on their foreheads shrink as they grow and usually disappears by the time the bunnies are ready to be on their own. Photo credit: Tara Simmons

with grass and soft fur pulled from her breast. Once the babies are born she leaves them, returning only at dawn and dusk to let them nurse.

Lawn care often exposes a nest as the long grass covering the babies is removed. Dogs are quick to nose out a nest as well. Seeing no parent, caring humans assume the babies have been abandoned and bundle them into a box.

At Woodford Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge we get hundreds of frantic calls from people who have found "abandoned" bunnies. If the baby cottontails are injured, medical care is indicated. Otherwise, it's best to leave the babies be. The doe will return to nurse her offspring in due course and human scent will not deter her.

We advise people to put the bunnies back in their nest and cover it with long grass. To find the nest, look for a shallow depression with scraps of fur. Adding a few strands of colorful yarn will show when the doe has returned and uncovered her babies to feed them.

Young bunnies are born blind and naked. They open their eyes in four or five days and leave the nest after about two weeks. They are weaned in 16 to 22 days. When young, cotton-

tails have a white stripe on their foreheads. This diminishes as they grow and bunnies with only a small white dot have left their mother's care and are on their own.

"But what about my dog?" callers often ask. If it's impossible to keep the dog away from the area, we suggest inverting a large wheelbarrow over the nest. Make sure to leave a space under one edge so the doe can get to her bunnies.

Cottontails are extremely sensitive and handling produces stress that can quickly lead to death. Since baby bunnies must be tube fed, stress builds up, often resulting in deadly bacterial infections. Rabbits are extremely short-lived. Many don't survive their first year and three years is about the maximum age in the wild. Thus, it really is best to leave them in the care of nature.

That cute cottontail munching on my clover may not be the adorable youngster I enjoyed last fall. But I am thankful that I have the chance to watch these and other wonders of nature as they go about their daily rounds. I try not to interfere with their lives, but they add a texture and dimension to mine that would surely be lacking without them.

Sweet Pepperbush

Adapted by Georgia Wurster from a column by Betty Woodford

What a lush stand of sweet pepper we've had this year! The lovely, green, mint-leaved annual is our last flowering shrub of summer. It is found along the coastal plain from Maine to Florida and westward into Texas. Yet, it is most abundant in New Jersey.

When I visited England's Kew Gardens, I was surprised to find a section about 12 by 15 feet planted in sweet pepperbush. Its marker identified it as *Clethra alnifolia* and stated that it's native to eastern North America. It just shows how gardeners the world over appreciate this handsome bush with its outstanding fragrance.

I remember a woman selling bunches of cut flowers from her garden who told me she called them St. Mary's spires. A swamp bordered with sweet pepperbush edged her farmland. Early in the day she prepared tubs of mixed zinnias, calendulas and marigolds. When she made up a bouquet, she added pieces of the fragrant sweet pepper. She said, "They sell better to the summer people who stop and buy vegetables on their way down to the shore."

Linnaeus gave the sweet pepperbush its Latin name, also known as white alder. We have a variety of common names for it: pepperbush, summer sweet or soap plant. The last name refers to the way a handful of leaves will give a sudsy wash due to the natural detergent found in them. In addition to being plentiful, this "soap" is biodegradable and soothing to the skin.



Sweet pepperbush (*Clethra alnifolia*) is a common shrub of the Pine Barrens. Its fragrant, white blossoms appear from late July into September.

When the flowers finish, a small roundish green fruit appears. These capsules turn tan by mid-autumn and are one way of identifying the shrub the rest of the year. Sometimes those

of the year before remain on the plant despite the winter sun and winds. Watch for chickadees that cling to the sweet pepperbush branches to clean the seeds before they fall.

Sweet Pepperbush in Your Garden

"*Clethra* is readily available with a little looking," writes Refuge board member Cecilia Schmidt, a landscape architect. It makes an attractive landscaping shrub and also comes in pink and dwarf varieties. Nearby nurseries that carry cultivated *Clethra* and other native plants include:

Hartford Gardens, Medford: 609-654-9395
Rita's Garden Center, Medford: 609-953-7482
Laurel Oak Garden Center, Marlton: 856-953-7779
Morrison's Garden Center, Marlton: 856-983-3795
Cugliotta Landscapes, Southampton: 609-859-9333

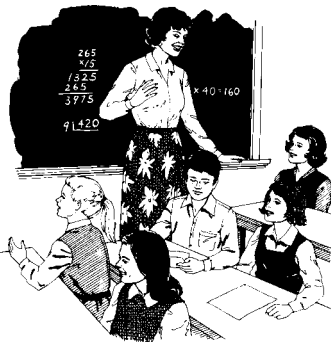
School's In!

Cedar Run's education team has planned an exciting series

of programs for school and scout groups. Students can explore our Pine Barrens habitat or meet our wild ones when Refuge on Wheels comes right to their classroom.

Teachers can find the details at our website, www.cedarrun.org and take a virtual tour to see what we offer.

To schedule a group program call Terri Loy at (856) 983-3329, ext. #1, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



Education coordinator Terri Loy shares a box turtle with a school class.

Wonderful Wildlife Weekends

Sat. 10 am-4 pm,

Sun. 1-4 pm

Included in admission

\$5 adult, \$3 child,

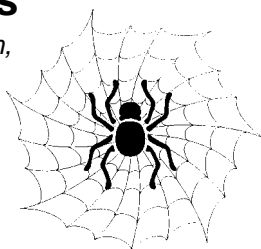
two-under free

Special displays, crafts and other activities enliven visits to Woodford Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge. Fall topics are:

September: **Spooky Spiders**

October: **Raptor Routes**

November: **Acorn Eaters**

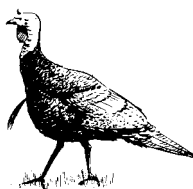


Gobble, Gobble

Fri., Nov. 26, ongoing from 11 am

Included in admission

You've got the family home, grandchildren and grandparents all looking for something to do. Join us at the Refuge for a "turkey of a time". There will be plenty of Thanksgiving crafts and turkey activities for the whole family



Knee High Naturalists

Wed., Sept. 15, 10-11:30 am:

Rabbit Romp

Wed., Oct. 13, 10-11:30 am:

Silly Squirrels

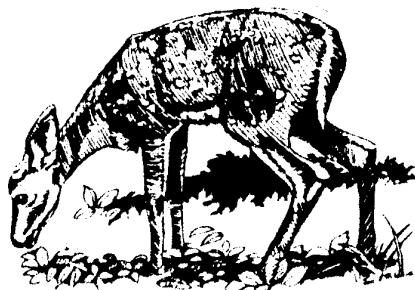
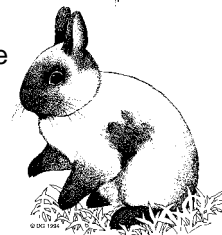
Wed., Nov. 17, 10-11:30 am:

Dandy Deer

Cost \$8 child & adult per session

Reservation needed: (856) 983-3329, #1

Create a special time for you and your little one as we discover nature together through games, stories, crafts and hikes. For 3-5 year olds and their caregivers.



Barren's Bop

Sat., Sept 25, 10 am & 2 pm

Included in admission

Preregistration needed: (856) 983-3329, #1

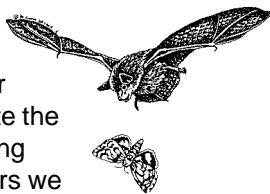
Join our Naturalist for a guided hike as we explore the trails of Cedar Run. Discover how the Pine Barrens prepare for winter. Meet our animals and learn their stories and play stump the naturalist. *The 10 am hike is for adults and those 12+. The 2 pm hike is for families with younger children*

Spooky Critters

Sun., Oct. 31, ongoing from 1pm

Included in admission

It's Halloween and what better way to celebrate the day than learning about the critters we call spooky. Bats, rats, spiders and owls are a few of the animals you can discover!



Cedar Run Seniors

Horseshoe Crabs

Thurs., Sept. 16, 1:30 pm

Cost \$4

Reservations required: 856-983-0326, #1

Cedar Run Seniors is a club for active adults ages 50+. Join us at the Education Center for a visit from Tuckerton Seaport Museum as they share with us the world of the horseshoe crab. They will be bringing live crabs and as usual there will be snacks.

Parker Preserve Hike

Thurs., Oct. 21, 1:30 pm

Cost: \$4

Reservations required: 856-983-3329, #1

Be among the first to explore this amazing new preserve in the heart of the Pine Barrens. Almost 10,000 acres make up the former DeMarco cranberry farm, recently preserved by the New Jersey Conservation Foundation. All sorts of wildlife, from eagles to pine snakes, find a home here and the bogs will be bursting with brilliant red berries. Meet at historic Buzby's General Store in Chatsworth and shop for Pinelands books, crafts and artwork before heading out to the Preserve.

Membership/Adopt/Program Registration

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Adopt-A-Wild-One (please circle your choice)

\$150	\$100	\$75	\$50	\$35	\$25
Bald Eagle	Red-tailed Hawk	Screech Owl	Striped Skunk	Corn Snake	Box Turtle
Snowy Owl	Great Horned Owl	Raccoon	Canada Goose	Flying Squirrel	Cottontail
	White-tailed Deer	Red Fox	Mute Swan	Groundhog	Robin

Membership (please circle level)

\$1000	\$500	\$250	\$100	\$50	\$30	\$25
Lifetime	Benefactor	Sustaining	Super Family	Family Plus	Family	Individual

Please mail form with check to: **WCRWR, 4 Sawmill Road, Medford, NJ 08055. Thanks!**

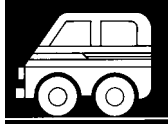
Living with Black Bears

Monday, September 27, 7:30 pm
Medford Public Safety Building
Donation requested

Black bears are getting a bad reputation as people move into the woods and as bear populations grow. Scare stories make headlines and homeowners worry about their children and their pets. What's the true story about black bears? Dr. Lynn Rogers, a nationally known black bear expert, will discuss his work with this charismatic species and answer questions about what to do if a bear wanders into your neighborhood. No reservations needed. Call Woodford Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge for information: (856) 983-3329, Extension #1.

Pinelands Van Voyages

Hop aboard this new program to explore the wonders of the Pine Barrens with our expert guides. Choose from the fall programs listed below:



Ghost Towns of the Pines

Sat., Sep. 25, 9 am-3 pm
Cost \$30; Reservations required
Old walls and cellar holes lurk throughout the Barrens, remnants of

once thriving villages. Step back in time as you explore some of these historic sites with Barbara Solem, author of *The Forks* and the soon to be published *Ghost Towns and Other Quirky Places in the New Jersey Pine Barrens*. Transportation provided; meet at the Refuge. Bring a brown-bag lunch. Limit: 14 participants.

Fall Migration in Cape May

Thurs., Oct. 21, 8 am-5 pm
Cost \$70; Reservations required
The autumn skies of Cape May are alive with migrating birds, from golden eagles to tiny hummingbirds. Ruth Pfeffer, proprietor of Birding with Ruth tours, will show you her favorite spots as you search the woods, meadows and beaches for common species and rarities. Transportation provided; meet at the Refuge. Bring a brown bag lunch. Limit: 14 participants.

Cranberry Photography

Sat., Oct. 23, 9 am-3pm
Cost \$85; Reservations required
Explore historic cranberry bogs and modern harvesting operations with your camera. Crisp blue skies mirrored in still waters, rafts of scarlet berries and workers garbed in waders will make for memorable photographs. Bob Birdsall, photographer/author of *Seasons of the Pines*, will share his

favorite views and how-to tips. Some knowledge of photography needed. Transportation provided; meet at the Refuge. Bring a brown bag lunch. Limit: 6 participants

Autumn with the Animals

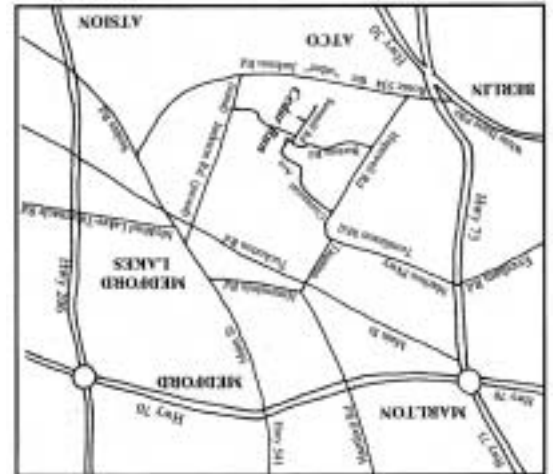


Photo credit: Ralph Alfors

Saturday, November 6,
1-5 pm **Cost: \$5 per person (two-under free)**

A wild time will be had by all at this family fun festival at the Refuge. Take a trackless train trip, climb aboard a Clydesdale carriage ride, bounce through the Jungle Maze, cheer our *Hunters of the Sky* live hawks and owls, meet some *Remarkable Reptiles*, play games, make crafts, have your face painted and gather round the campfire for music and food. Check the website at www.cedarrun.org for directions.

Lost? Call (856) 983-0326 for directions.



Address Service Requested

4 Samwell Road
Medford, NJ 08055
Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge

WOODFORD



REFUGE VISITING HOURS
Mon. - Sat.: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Sun.: 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
WILDLIFE INTAKE
Summer - 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Winter - 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Seven days per week

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
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76712