

Notes from Evergreen



Quarterly Update

Register for summer camps & workshops

Discover our newly restored barn

Learn about our education programs

Summer's Here!

Evergreen Heritage Center has lots of fun activities for summer! Call us on 301-687-0664 to sign-up.

Summer Discovery Camps:

- **Arts in the Outdoors (June 24-29, 9-3 pm):** Children entering grades 3-7 can explore their own creativity with nature as the theme. Campers will draw, paint, use mixed media, do printmaking, paper making, sculpture, and writing, while finding inspiration in the great outdoors and learning about the work of environmental writers and artists.
- **Science Discovery (July 8-12, 9-3 pm):** Children entering grades 3-7 will explore EHC forests, fields, and wetlands by using cool science tools to learn about plants and animals and the world we live in. Campers conduct real science experiments, learn how to live green, and participate in fun science challenges.
- **Young Naturalists (July 15-19, 9-1 pm):** Children entering grades 1-3 will uncover the secrets of mini-beasts, plants with armor, and stealth camouflage in Evergreen's lush backyard habitats. This half-day camp for our youngest group of campers includes hands-on close encounters with wildlife and science.
- **Grow It, Cook It (July 22-16, 9-3 pm):** Children entering grades 3-7 will start seeds and harvest fruits and veggies from EHC gardens, greenhouses, and orchards. Campers will learn where our food comes from, how it grows, and see the journey from farm to table as they investigate garden secrets, experiment with plants, and prepare delicious snacks from our farm.

Garden Workshops: These 90-minute workshops are offered for a registration fee of \$15 that can be applied toward the purchase of EHC plants and herbs. (Adults and older teens)

- **Gardening 101 (Sunday, June 23rd 1-2:30 pm)** - Learn about the basics of backyard gardening, including site selection, soil tests and amendments, choosing plants and varieties, and pros and cons of raised bed gardening. Go home with a vegetable plant seedling of your choice.
- **Native Plants 101 (Sunday July 28th 1-2:30 pm)** - Learn about native plants common to this area and how to propagate them, including seed stratification and scarification. Also, learn about the benefits of adding native plants to your garden/landscape and the environmental, ecological and medicinal benefits of various plants. Go home with a native plant.

Come Discover the Evergreen Barn

We are pleased to introduce the newly renovated Evergreen Barn, built over 200 years ago. This beautiful 2500 square foot/floor building is the last remaining barn of its era in Western Maryland. The Barn retains its original framework and charm, restored using wood from the Evergreen property that was milled in the EHC's own sawmill.

The Barn also now includes a 600 square foot deck off of the front of the barnyard that provides a scenic view of the property's orchards and woods, as well as the nearby pond, dock and a 900 square foot timber-frame pavilion. In addition, the Barn has handmade cherry wood tables, ADA-compliant restrooms, dimmable vintage Edison lighting, large wooden ceiling fans, a rustic bar in the Barn's granary, and propane heaters to take off the chill. The nearby parking lot accommodates 100+ cars and is well-lit.

In the Works: The lower stables of the Barn will become the "Living Off the Land" agricultural museum later this year. The displays will include artifacts original to the farm with the objective of sharing 200 years of rural Western Maryland farm life. This educational experience will be accomplished through interpretive exhibits, signage, and literature. The museum will display handmade tools and implements to tell the story of the farm, explain how the barn was built, and show the farm's harvest in crops, animals products, & native wild foods. The story will be based on extensive historical research, reference documents, documented family recollections, and regional folklore, enabling visitors to step back in time and experience rural farm life in Western Maryland. The historic building as well as the antiques and artifacts provide a unique visitor experience. This new addition will provide another way by which the EHC can educate its visitors on the history and folklife of the region and how Western Maryland settlers and their descendants successfully lived off of the land while preserving it for future generations.



Looking Back on the School Year

This past year, in collaboration with our partners, we provided art and science programs for children from pre-K through 12th grade;

- **STEM Field Trips** provided K-12 students with the opportunity to discover the wonders of science through hands-on learning in the outdoors. These award-winning field classes, which are aligned with the Maryland State Curriculum, consistently **increase student STEM literacy by 25 to 50%** (per pre/post-tests) and serve as a model throughout the State (left, below).
- **Healthy Living** programs focused on human wellness, teaching children where food comes from, how it grows, and the importance of healthy eating. In addition to field trips for pre-K children, this program includes Elementary Edibles, a program for children in kindergarten through 5th grade, who learn about vegetables, plant them in window box gardens in the classroom and then share a salad bar lunch with parents in the fall. This program, which also includes taste testing vegetables and caring for them as they grow, is **increasing student willingness to taste vegetables and eat healthy** (center, below).
- **Environmental Arts** provided activities for all ages that included art workshops, events, and grade level-wide in-school programs that **increase art literacy by 25-65%, as well as art appreciation** per pre/post-tests and surveys (right, below).

In addition to these programs, the EHC Foundation also supported many events during the year, both at Evergreen and in the community, and mentored dozens of college students through internships, with class groups, or with students pursuing individual projects.

For more information on our programs, call 301-687-0664, visit our web site at www.evergreenheritagecenter.org, or email janiekeene@evergreenheritagecenter.org.



Order Your Native Plants Now!

There is still time to order native plants. An order form is available online at our website www.evergreenheritagecenter.org or you can call 301-687-0664.

We Host Events!

Evergreen Heritage Center can accommodate your wedding, event, or meetings of **up to 150 people**. Nestled in the Mountains of Western Maryland, Evergreen provides a scenic setting for your special occasion. At over 2500 square feet on the main level of the Evergreen Barn, as well as other areas on the picturesque grounds available for use, Evergreen is a unique and peaceful setting for your private event. Other charming spots at Evergreen include the main pavilion which accommodates up to **75** and the picturesque pond and its wooden dock. Our green facility provides the picture-perfect location to host a variety of occasions. Let us assist in planning your next function.

For more information, contact 301-687-0664 or janicekeene@evergreenheritagecenter.org.



Photo: The Evergreen Pond



Photo: Oakland Civic Club Meeting at the Barn

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