

ABOUT OUR SUMMER CAMPS

With the guidance of our trained and dedicated Naturalist staff, your child will experience the wonders of nature and create lasting memories. All of our camps are designed with age-appropriate educational topics that encourage critical thinking, exploration and, of course, outdoor fun!



REGISTRATION

Registration begins:

January 31 for Mercer County residents.
February 14 for everyone.

Registration and payment can be completed online at: <https://register.communitypass.net/mercer>. Camps are filled on a first-come, first-served basis and fill quickly. Only complete applications will be processed.

Children must have reached the minimum age of their camp by Oct. 1, 2022.

Complete application includes:

- Registration form
- Copy of participant's immunization record
- Medical Record Form
- Liability Release Form
- Full payment

Cancellation & Refund Policy

Cancellation requests must be in writing to natureprograms@mercercounty.org. In the event of cancellation, refunds will be subject to a \$40 service charge. **No refunds will be issued for cancellations made after May 26.** Fees are not refunded for a missed program.

Late Pick-up Fees

Late pick up fee is \$10 per child per 15-minute segment past 3:00 p.m. (\$10 for pickup between 3:00 and 3:15pm, \$20 for pickup between 3:15 and 3:30, etc.) Payment is due at pick-up.



MERCER COUNTY PARK COMMISSION

Our summer camps are created, managed and operated by the Mercer County Park Commission Environmental Education Department. As environmental educators, we are passionate about providing high quality engaging experiences in the outdoors for everyone regardless of age, ability, or background. Through environmental education, we aim to cultivate an environmentally aware and involved community with hands-on inquiry-based programming. Join us to learn how you can discover a personal connection with nature.

Questions?

Call 609-888-3218 ext. 205 or email natureprograms@mercercounty.org



Environmental Education Staff

Kelly Rypkema, Director of Environmental Education
krypema@mercercounty.org

Alexandria Kosowski, Park Naturalist
akosowski@mercercounty.org

Bryana Tiggett, Park Naturalist
btiggett@mercercounty.org

Gretchen Buxton, Program Coordinator
gbuxton@mercercounty.org



Aaron T. Watson
Executive Director



Brian M. Hughes
County Executive

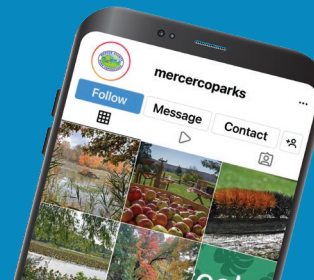


Nature programs



SUMMER CAMPS 2023

Follow us on  [@mercercoparks](https://www.instagram.com/mercercoparks)





Aquatic Adventure Camp

Aquatic Adventure Camp blends environmental science with summer fun! Campers become immersed in freshwater ecology as they explore Mercer Lake and observe its scaly and feathered residents.

Registration limited to 1 week per camper.



☀ **June 26–30**

☀ **July 10–14**

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

**Mercer County Park Marina,
West Windsor, NJ**

Anglers

Ages: 10–12 years by Oct. 1, 2022.
\$250/week Mercer County residents
\$350/week Out-of-county residents

Campers will spend mornings fishing (and catching) the finned friends of Mercer Lake, while afternoons are focused honing in on specific skills necessary to any avid angler. Species identification and size limits are studied while practicing catch and release fishing. Campers will learn to interpret the conditions of the lake to increase chances of success and better understand its complex biology.

Kayakers

Ages: 13–15 years by Oct. 1, 2022.
\$300/week Mercer County Residents
\$400/week Out-of-county residents

Campers will paddle a kayak each morning on a quest to discover and investigate the shoreline, creeks, and hidden coves of Lake Mercer. Campers will explore the lake's ecology by learning to identify the diverse plant and wildlife, both on land and in water, and then end each day with fun and games. For their safety, campers attending Kayak camp need to know how to swim.

Baldpate Camp

Baldpate Nature Camp is designed to enhance children's natural affinity for the great outdoors. Hands-on nature explorations, science experiments, hikes through the forest and unstructured nature play create the foundation for each camp week. Camp days are devoted to a specific nature topic such as arthropods, forest ecology, birds, and wildlife tracking.

Registration limited to 1 week per camper.



☀ **July 24–28**

☀ **July 31–August 4**

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

**Baldpate Mountain,
Titusville, NJ**

\$250/week Mercer County residents
\$350/week Out-of-county residents

Chickadees

Ages: 7–9 years by Oct. 1, 2022.

Towhees

Ages: 10–12 years by Oct. 1, 2022.

Tulpehaking Nature Camp

Discover Nature through the lens of the Lenape, who inhabited this freshwater tidal marsh centuries ago and continue to view it as their homeland. Campers will explore the unique ecology and history of Abbott Marshlands through hands-on outdoor explorations paired with traditional Lenape games and crafts.



☀ **August 7–11**

9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

**Tulpehaking Nature Center,
Hamilton, NJ**

\$250/week Mercer County residents
\$350/week Out-of-county residents

Painted Turtles

Ages: 7–9 years by Oct. 1, 2022.

Snapping Turtles

Ages: 10–12 years by Oct. 1, 2022.

CONTACT US: ☎ **(609) 888-3218**

✉ **natureprograms@mercercounty.org**

🌐 **www.mercercounty.org/parks**