

April 5, 2019

D&R CANAL WATCH 2019 Activities

www.canalwatch.org

www.dandrcanal.com

All Saturday Canal Walks begin at **10 AM**, unless noted. Meeting Places are designated with “(MP)” in the walk description. Contact information for Program Leaders is below. If emailing, use “**D&R Canal**” in subject header.

Bob Barth, 201-401-3121; bbarth321@aol.com
Pamela V'Combe, 609-635-2783; pjvcombe@gmail.com

Jessica Hunsdon, 732-993-4505

Saturday, May 11 - 10:00 a.m. 6 m Walk - Griggstown to Colonial Park (MP) @ parking lot F, 156 Mettlers Road, Somerset, NJ 08873. Many blooms along the trail in May, including a bridgetender's garden, abundant flora trail and the nationally acclaimed Rudolf W. van der Goot Rose Garden. Short walk is 3.5m to Blackwell's Mills. Leader: Pamela V'Combe

Saturday, May 18 - 10:00 a.m. History Bike Tour on the D&R Canal towpath from Kingston to Griggstown and back, 10 miles round trip. Explore the structures along the D&R Canal with Canal Watch trustee Bob Barth. Meet at the locktender's home in Kingston. Bring water; helmet required. Allow three hours. Leader: Bob Barth

Saturday, May 18 – 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. Dinner cruise on the canal boat *Josiah White II* in Easton, Pennsylvania. Join us on the mule-drawn boat and experience “locking through.” Canal troubadour Roy Justice will entertain us with songs and stories. This is a fund-raiser to restore the bridgetender's station in East Millstone. \$100 per person. To sign up, visit www.canalwatch.org and on the canal dinner cruise link. Let's have some fun on the Lehigh Canal.



Sunday, May 19 – 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. -- Canal Road will be closed between 10:00 and 4:00 between Butler Road and Amwell Road for Franklin Township's “**Walk and Roll.**” Enjoy a day with friends and family along the scenic D&R Canal with no cars!

Sunday, June 2 – 8:00 a.m. Birdwatching walk. Meet at the historic Van Wickle House off Easton Avenue at the foot of DeMott Lane, Somerset section of Franklin. See and hear Baltimore and Orchard orioles and other nesting songbirds as we walk along the Delaware & Raritan Canal. (GPS: 1289 Easton Avenue, Somerset NJ 08873.) Leaders: Barbara & George Dawson, 732-249-2670; email barbaradawsonwriter@yahoo.com.

Saturday, June 8 - 10:00 a.m. 5.8 m Walk – East Millstone to Lock 11 in South Bound Brook (MP), across from the post office on Canal Road at Madison Street. Short walk is 2.7 m to Zarephath. East Millstone May be small today, but it was once a booming factory and transportation hub. See the Pillar of Fire site at Zarephath and S. Bound Brook's GAF factory redesign along the canal, a model of adaptive reuse. Leader: Pamela V'Combe

Sunday, June 9 – 2:00 p.m. D&R Canal Watch Annual Meeting at the Griggstown Mule Tenders Barracks. Celebrating the 185th anniversary of the opening of the D&R Canal and the 30th anniversary of the D&R Canal Watch. **Jim Amon will present his wonderful photographic program on flora and fauna along the canal.** Contact Linda Barth at 908-240-0488 or barthlinda123@aol.com. GPS address is 4 Griggstown Causeway, Princeton (Building is in the Griggstown section of Franklin Township, not in Princeton).



Tuesday, June 24 -- 9:30 a.m. - East Millstone Canal Towpath to Colonial Park Loop. 2.0 – 2.5 miles. Meet at the East Millstone trailhead (Route 514) where we will visit the historic Bridgetender's House and hear about the village's history from the 16th century. Then, we depart for a short leisurely walk to Somerset County's Colonial Park. After exploring the park's numerous gardens and arboretum, we will return to our cars. Leader: Pamela V'Combe

Sunday, July 14 – Canal Walk and Roll: Canal Road will be closed from 10:00 to 4:00 from Route 518 to the Griggstown Causeway. Enjoy a day with friends and family along the scenic D&R Canal with no cars!

Tuesday, July 23 -- 9:30 a.m. Bulls Island and Raven Rock via the White Oak Trail Loop. 2.0 – 2.5 miles. Meet at the D&R Canal State Park's Bulls Island Visitor Center on Route 29, where D&R Canal history and nature displays can be viewed. After hearing the history of Bulls Island and the local area, we will depart for the White Oak Trail and see the hamlet's namesake, Raven Rock. Leader: Pamela V'Combe

Saturday, August 10 - 10:00 a.m. 6.2 m Walk- Washington Crossing to Ellarslie, the Trenton City Museum in Cadwalader Park (MP). We will pass by old quarries near Wilburtha and Upper Ferry Roads, several historic canal structures, stop gates, a spillway, an aqueduct, and other historic features. Short walk is 3.6-mile walk to Scudder's Falls. Leader: Pamela V'Combe.

Sunday, August 11 - Sunday, July 14 – Canal Walk and Roll: Canal Road will be closed from 10:00 to 4:00 from Route 518 to the Griggstown Causeway. Enjoy a day with friends and family along the scenic D&R Canal with no cars!

Tuesday, August 20. 9:30 a.m. 3 miles- Blackwells Mills Bridge Tenders Garden & Six Mile Run Trail. Meet at the Blackwells Mills Day Use Area parking lot (on the causeway). En route to the Six Mile Run Trails area, we will visit the Blackwell Mills bridgetender's house and garden, and then head toward the Six Mile Run trail. We'll become familiar with the original plans for the area, as we explore a small part of the trail system. Lunch: Bring a picnic lunch. Leader: Pamela V'Combe

Saturday, September 14 - 10:00 a.m. 5.7 m Walk Bulls Island to Holcombe Jimison Farm (MP). Starting at the D&R Feeder Canal origins, we will pass an early 18th century milling village on the confluence of the Delaware River and Wickecheoke Creek, pass through Stockton, and conclude at a historical farm site. Short walk is 3m to Prallsville Mills. Leader: Pamela V'Combe

Saturday, September 14: 11:00-5:00, Spirit of the Jerseys State History Fair, Monmouth Battlefield State Park. Experience five centuries of New Jersey's history all in one place—a historical festival for all ages. This free, award-winning event annually draws more than 5,000 visitors. The fair is a fun-filled adventure into New Jersey's past with living history demonstrations, military reenactors, tours, exhibits, period music and dance, and historical organizations and museums from around the state. There are plenty of hands-on activities for kids and adults, from learning the art of paper marbling to participating in historical games; to plowing a furrow or participating in a military drill. This is a chance to see the new visitor center at Monmouth Battlefield, 16 Highway 33 Business, Manalapan Township, NJ 07726; 732-462-9616. (Rain date: Sunday, September 15)

Saturday, October 12 - 10:00 a.m. 5.4 m Walk on the D&R Canal towpath from Fireman's Eddy to Prallsville Mill (MP) The tour will include the historic remnants of the feeder canal outlet lock to the river, other historic canal structures, and expansive views across river. Short walk is 2.6-mile walk to the Holcombe-Jimison Farm. Leader: Pamela V'Combe

Friday, November 1 - 7:00-11:00 p.m. Star-gazing along the canal. Griggstown Star Gazing. Join us at the Griggstown Grassland Preserve for an evening of stargazing. The planet Mars will be visible in the south. The Andromeda Galaxy, the farthest object that can be seen with the unaided eye, will be high in the sky. We will be looking at star clusters, open clusters and planetary nebulae in the Milky Way. The Grassland Preserve is located at 1091 Canal Road in Griggstown. Space is limited. Please register by contacting Wayne Petko (wpetko02@gmail.com).

Saturday, November 9 - 10:00 a.m. 5.3 m Walk Fireman's Eddy to Washington Crossing (MP @ Nelson House). See the emerging grassland/meadows restoration project, riparian and edge habitats supporting a large variety wildlife. Along the way, stroll through the picturesque and historic Titusville, ending at the site of the famous Christmas Night Crossing by Washington and the Continental Army. Short walk option is the 4.1-mile walk to Church Road in Titusville. Leader: Pamela V'Combe

D&R Canal Watch 2019 Membership Renewal Form

Membership year: January 1 to December 31

Nonprofit Org \$10 _____ Individual \$15 _____ Family \$25 _____ Organization \$40 _____
Supporter \$100 _____ Patron \$250 _____ Business member \$500 _____ Benefactor \$1000 _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone(s) _____

Email address _____

Please send this form and your check, payable to the D&R Canal Watch, to D&R Canal Watch, P.O. Box 2, Rocky Hill, New Jersey 08553-0002.

For reasons of fiscal and environmental responsibility, newsletters will be posted on the Canal Watch website, www.canalwatch.org, and emailed to members for whom we have email addresses. If you require a paper copy, please check here _____.

Volunteers are needed to lead walks/trips. Do you have computer, photography, or design skills that you are willing to use for the organization? May we call on you? Yes ___ No ___ Try me ___ (circle your skill)

The D & R Canal Watch is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.