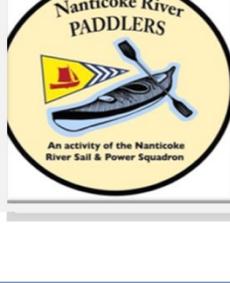


2016 Reclaim Our River, Nanticoke Series - Watershed Events, Workshops and Floating Fun!



Your guide for reclaiming and enjoying your waterways. *Protect where you play!*



Rowers, Paddlers, Kayakers -Paddling club! March - Oct.

- Paddling Club to add Kayak Cleanups and Canoe and Scoops to ROR Series
- The Nanticoke River Sail and Power Squadron's paddling club will be sponsoring various outings on the Nanticoke River, Broad Creek, and local ponds.
- These adventures will be added to the ROR series as a fun way to connect each other to our waterways and clean as we go. The ROR team will be providing trash bags and other clean up supplies.
- If interested in joining, please contact Tom McGeen at tjmpe@comcast.net (or by phone 302-629-5612) with your name and email and we'll provide you with directions to the launch area. Be sure to bring a life preserver and whistle or horn as required by Delaware law.

Nanticoke Creekwatchers Training and Kickoff -March 12

- The Nanticoke Watershed Alliance (NWA) seeks enthusiastic, energetic volunteers to join the 2016 Nanticoke Creekwatchers Citizen Water Monitoring Program, which is set to launch its ninth season with a volunteer training and kickoff event Saturday, March 12 at Trap Pond State Park's Baldcypress Nature Center in Laurel.
- Creekwatchers must attend the season kickoff for training or go to an alternate training session Sunday, March 20 at the NWA office in Vienna, Md. Training will provide an in-depth look at the program's water quality monitoring protocol and an opportunity for hands-on experience with water quality monitoring equipment. Further, the training offers insight into the Creekwatchers program and its history, water quality issues and indicators. Since the inception of the program, more than 90 citizen scientists have participated, acting as the eyes and ears of the Nanticoke River and its connected waterways. No previous experience in water quality monitoring is required to become a Creekwatcher.
- Interested volunteers may register for Nanticoke Creekwatchers training at [creekwatchers2016.eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/nanticoke-creekwatchers-training-and-kickoff-2016-tickets-22499188679). For more information, contact Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator Beth Wasden at bethwasden@nanticoke.com or call 443-944-1175.



Free Rain Barrel Building Workshop at Hardin Hall -Blades, DE March 14

- Build a free Rain Barrel with a kit provided by DNREC and plastic drum provided by Dogfish Head Brewery and Coca-Cola
- This hands-on workshop is a fun, easy way to learn about how rain barrels can reduce runoff and flooding and save you money! All materials will be provided and participants will go home with their own free rain barrel made during the workshop.
- Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/rain-barrel-building-workshop-tickets-22499188679> or call Phil Miller at 302-290-3578



"Project Clean Stream" Wetland Cleanup in Bridgeville - April 2

- Volunteers wanted!
- Come help the Reclaim Our River team clean up this wetland so it can help clean up our water!
- Wetlands provide habitat, protect water quality and reduce flooding.
- For more information, please contact: Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator Beth Wasden at 443.944.1175 or bethwasden@nanticoke.com.



Your Water, Your Watershed: Saturday April 9, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM - Laurel Public Library, 101 E 4th St, Laurel, DE 19956



- What is stormwater, and why is it a problem?
- Participants will get hands-on with a stormwater model and learn about urban conservation practices and how homeowner decisions impact water quality. Up to 20 participants will receive backyard conservation kits that contain pet waste bag dispensers, Nanticoke River Watershed Atlases, and more. Sign up for the Livable Lawn program and receive a \$50 coupon for native plants.
- Workshops are free, but space is limited. Register at <http://goo.gl/forms/MRbvxGMQON> or by contacting Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator Beth Wasden at 443.944.1175 or bethwasden@nanticoke.com.



Arbor Day at Blades Park - TBD

- Today the students of Blades Elementary will be planting trees to help provide a healthy community!
- A day to inspire people to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees
- Trees make a world of difference!
- Trees provide an aesthetic value and increase property values. They also improve water and air quality, reduce energy costs, and provide habitat for wildlife.

Musselwatchers Training -May 7

- The Nanticoke Watershed Alliance (NWA) invites you to participate in a pilot citizen science program—Nanticoke Musselwatchers! The data collected will allow the NWA, the Delaware Department of Natural Resources, and other partners the ability to begin to reassess freshwater mussel populations in the Nanticoke River watershed. Eventually, data collected through this program will be incorporated into the Nanticoke River Report Card.
- Just as their better-known, brackish cousins (oysters) filter nutrients and provide excellent water clarity benefits, freshwater mussels too provide crucial services in non-tidal and tidal freshwater waterways. Discover more about the Nanticoke River's native "heavy lifters," how to identify them, and what will be expected as a Nanticoke Musselwatcher Volunteer Monitor.
- The pilot program will concentrate on freshwater mussel identification at specified sites from May to September 2016. Participants must commit to monitoring once per month during that time. Organized Musselwatching days will occur on scheduled Saturdays and Sundays, although volunteers may perform monitoring anytime during the month when water conditions are safe.
- This program is family-friendly but requires that participants be willing and able to get wet. Wading in local streams will be required, as will handling, measuring, photographing, and identifying mussels. The NWA will provide all equipment and training necessary, which participants will take home following training on May 7.
- Participants must pre-register for this program. Please contact Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator Beth Wasden at bethwasden@nanticoke.com or at 443.944.1175 for more information or to pre-register.



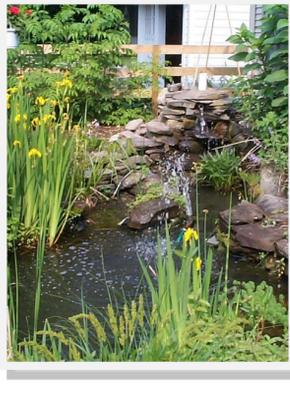
Lawn and Garden: Saturday, May 28, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM - Laurel Public Library, 101 E 4th St, Laurel, DE 19956

- Learn how to protect your local waterways while also caring for your lawn by using soil test results and fertilizing the right amount at the right time of the year.
- The workshop will also discuss native plants, composting, and other practices that you can undertake to enjoy a beautiful, sustainable landscape that benefits your local waterways, pollinators, wildlife, and your senses! Up to 20 participants will receive soil test kits.
- Workshops are free, but space is limited. Register at <http://goo.gl/forms/MRbvxGMQON> or by contacting Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator Beth Wasden at 443.944.1175 or bethwasden@nanticoke.com.



Gardening for Wildlife and Water in Laurel - TBD

- What we do on land directly affects the quality of water we drink and use for recreation. You can help to ensure clean, safe, drinking water for people and wildlife. Delaware Nature Society invites residents to join this free presentation.
- Learn how to beautify your yard while attracting colorful butterflies and birds and improving local water health. Topics will include: native plants to suit your yard; creating a bird friendly habitat; supporting beneficial pollinators; rain gardens: plants for wet areas; and low maintenance & healthy lawns.
- To register for this presentation or for more information, please contact Alice Mohrman, Education Coordinator, Abbott's Mill Nature Center, at (302)422-0847 or email alice@delawarenaturesociety.org



Rain Barrels and Rain Gardens: June 18, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM - Laurel Public Library, 101 E 4th St, Laurel, DE 19956

- Rain barrels are a popular means of conserving water, as they're easy to install, use, and maintain. Participants will learn how to make them for their own use and how to care for them. You will also learn about rain gardens, their role in beautifying your yard and improving water quality, and how you can install one on your property. Up to 20 participants will receive free 45-gallon EarthMinded rain barrels.
- Workshops are free, but space is limited. Register at <http://goo.gl/forms/MRbvxGMQON> or by contacting Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator Beth Wasden at 443.944.1175 or bethwasden@nanticoke.com.

Eco Paddle at Laurel Riverfront Park -June 25 (Rain date: June 26)

- Explore the Nanticoke River during this morning guided paddle. Hear about wildlife, water quality, history of the Captain John Smith trail, public access and the National Parks Conservation Association's Freedom to Float campaign.
- After your paddle, join us for a barbeque and see exhibits from the Reclaim Our River partnership.
- The float trip will go along one of the most iconic and scenic rivers in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The Nanticoke River Water Trail spans a Delaware and Maryland. In 1608, Captain John Smith explored the river which is named for the Native Americans who lived along its banks. Today, the 725,000-acre watershed supports a diverse range of wildlife and more rare plants than any other landscape in the Chesapeake. For DNREC's Division of Watershed Stewardship and other partners, the Eco Paddle event also will highlight techniques used to improve water quality by reducing nutrient and sediment pollution entering Delaware's waterways.
- For more information, please contact Phil Miller 302-290-3578 Philip.miller@state.de.us



Nanticoke Riverfest in Seaford -July 8 & 9

- July 8: Join us for the 3rd annual Nanticoke Riverfest boat parade. Bring your power or sail boat, kayak, canoe, or raft and join in the fun!
- July 9: See exhibits from the Reclaim Our River partnership and find out about the health of the Nanticoke River and what you can do to help out.
- July 9: Build a free rain barrel with DNREC!
- For more information, please visit: <http://www.nanticoke.com/riverfest/>

Recycled Cardboard Boat Regatta at Blades Marina -August 6

- Bang! And the race begins! Grab some cardboard now and start building. On August 6, we'll be at the Recycled Cardboard Boat Regatta at the Blades Marina.
- This is a sight not to be missed. This year, if you're between races or just there to watch, you can enjoy the live band, food, and exhibits from the ROR partners.
- Contact Phil Miller to register or for more information: delawarewatersheds.org Philip.miller@state.de.us 302-290-3578



Nature Walk at Phillips Landing, Nanticoke Wildlife Area - August 18

- Join the Delaware Nature Society and partners for a nature walk at Phillips Landing where we'll be exploring the park, birding and talking about other wildlife in the area.
- Phillips Landing is known best for bass fishing, bird watching, and a beautiful view of the wild rice beds across the river.
- For more information please contact Nan Zamorski at nanzamorski@gmail.com

Woodland Ferry Festival in Seaford -September 10

- Plan to attend this wonderful family event held the second Saturday of September each year. Games, rides, vendors, ferry rides, music and much more will be there for you.
- See exhibits from the Reclaim Our River team and learn about how you can help protect the Nanticoke River and its tributaries.
- More information can be found here: http://www.woodlandferry.net/The_Festival.html



Chapel Branch Service Day in Seaford -September 17

- Join us for a day of giving back to the Chapel Branch Nature Area in Seaford. We'll be taking a hand by cleaning the area of trash and working on improving the trails.
- This is a great excuse to get outdoors and learn about how we can protect where we play. See you on the trail!
- For more information, contact Phil Miller: philip.miller@state.de.us or 302-672-1149