

Prescott Farm



Environmental Education Center

Members' Newsletter, Issue #1 - January 2010



Happy New Year from Prescott Farm!

Dear Members,

Welcome to the premier issue of our membership newsletter. We hope you will find the information here useful. If you have any comments or suggestions about what you would like to see here, please don't hesitate to contact us!

Winter is here and we are gearing up for snowshoeing, tracking, WildQuest Winter Camp and Maple Sugar Madness. We hope you will join us.

Again, we are so pleased that you have joined us as members and look forward to seeing you at the farm soon!

Take care,
Cathy, Sarah & Kim

WildQuest Winter Camp

February 22-26, 2010; 9:00-3:00

WildQuest Winter Camp will enhance your child's ecological awareness and provide fun learning opportunities in a community-minded and non-competitive atmosphere. Camp includes nature activities, animal and plant identification, arts and crafts, quests, and hands-on learning. Most of the day is spent outdoors. Please dress children appropriately for the weather and time of year. Extended care provides supervised playtime before and after regular camp hours. You can register by the day or for the full week.

Monday, February 22 Snowforts

Finding or building shelter in the winter is a life or death matter to animals, but for us, it can be a lot of fun! We'll build our own forts and a group quinzhee, as well as explore other forms of winter shelter for animals and people. Continued on next page.

Prescott Farm Environmental Education Center

is a non-profit center that offers environmental education for all ages. The 160-acre historic family farm is designated as an official NH Wildlife Viewing area, and offers visitors hiking on more than three miles of woodland, pond and field trails. Visitors can also explore a three-story historic barn, beautiful heritage and heirloom flower and vegetable gardens, and an old-fashioned maple sugar operation. Other programs include school vacation camps, field trips and pre-school programs.

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Tuesday, February, 23

Extreme Explorers: Tracking Adventure!

What are animals up to this time of year? Have you ever followed a set of animal tracks to see where they go? We'll strap on our snowshoes and go on an animal tracking adventure to the far corners of the farm.

Wednesday, February 24

Winter Art & Snow Sculptures

What a beautiful time of year! We'll take inspiration from this icy, sparkly winter world as we create our own winter-themed art projects and outdoor snow sculptures.

Thursday, February 25

Maple Quest

It's almost maple sugaring time! Our new Maple Quest will get our sugar season started by identifying the right trees, tapping a few of them and getting the sugarhouse up and running. Then we'll finish off the day with a treat!

Friday, February 26

Winter Nature Olympics

Join us for a day of fun and games! We'll discover old and new winter games from many different cultures and then stage our own "Winter Nature Olympics."

For more information and to register, please visit our website.

Prescott Farm is a member of the NH Camp Directors' Association and our camps are licensed by the State of NH.

Keep In Touch!

[Twitter](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Shutterfly](#) (New WildQuest

Holiday photos!)

[Our Blog](#)

Join Our Mailing List!

Image of the month!



You may have recognized him in our recent holiday card!

Maple Sugar Madness!

Saturdays, March 6-27, 2010

10:00-11:30, 12:00-1:30, 2:00-3:30

Join us to experience an old-fashioned New England tradition - making maple syrup!

From tapping a tree to tasting delicious maple syrup, you will have hands-on participation in every step of the syrup making process. Our environmental educators will help you to build tree ID skills and learn the parts of a tree and their functions, use measuring tools to find an appropriate tree to tap, use historical and modern tree tapping tools, learn the history of maple sugaring including Native American legends, and discover the math and chemical/physical science in the boiling process.

The program involves a 20 minute walk to our Sugar House -- please note that you will be hiking back up hill after the program. Please wear boots and dress appropriately for the weather. Snowshoes will be provided as needed.

FEES:

\$5/adult; \$4/child age 4-12 (members of PFEEC) OR \$8/adult; \$7/child age 4-12 (non-members). Ages 3 & under are free!

Reservations are required - Call us at (603) 366-5695 now to save your spot!



New Historic Photo Exhibit

Prescott Farm: A Look Back in Photographs is now on display in the Pardoe Building. The exhibit was put together this summer by Elizabeth Prescott Ballou, a sixteen year-old descendant of the farm's original owners. The ten photographs were taken in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and depict Prescott-Pardoe family, the farm's agricultural history, and historic buildings.



Parties & Meetings at Prescott Farm

Whether you are seeking a unique setting for an upcoming celebration or corporate gathering, we welcome the opportunity to host your event.

The Samuel Pardoe Building provides a 725 square foot meeting room and an adjacent kitchenette. This bright and inviting space features a 30 foot glass end-wall overlooking fields to the Belknap Mountains.

Full day, half-day and non-profit rates are available.

More details are available on our website or by calling Kim at (603) 366-5695.



Can you guess whose tracks these are?



*Hint: This animal enjoys eating grass, plants, bushes and saplings. It also is able to run 40 miles per hour and jump 10 feet high.



*Hint: This bird can be wild or domesticated. The wild ones often spend their nights in trees on low branches, preferable over water to help protect them from tree-climbing predators. This bird also has a wattle under its chin and makes a gobbling sound!

Answers will be given in the next issue of our eNewsletter!

Wish List

New and energy efficient refrigerator

Facts About Going Green by Moira Clune

Going green is better for the environment, better for you and better for your kids. And it may be more economical than you think. There are simple things you can do to reduce your impact on the planet and keep more money in your pocket.

Driving Slower Saves Gas

1. Lighten up on the gas pedal. Dropping your speed to the legal limit can increase fuel efficiency by 15 to 23 percent.

Recycling Greeting Cards Reduces Waste

2. Millions of greeting cards are sent, read and tossed every year. Cut them in half and use the front as a greeting postcard. Less postage, less cost, less landfill.

Holiday Gift Wrap Clogs Landfills

3. Next year, wrap your holiday gifts in old maps, packing paper or reusable gift bags. You will save money, save landfill space and save trees.

Eating Local Saves Energy

4. Your favorite fruits and vegetables travel about 1,500 miles to fill your fridge. Buy from local farms: the food is fresher, it supports the local economy and saves gas.

Landscaping Wastes Water

Continued on next page.

5. During the dry months of summer, 40 percent of household water is sucked up by lawns and landscaping. A rain barrel can capture some of the hundreds of gallons of free water that run off your roof: a 1,000-square-foot roof yields up to 600 gallons from a 1-inch rainfall.

Tap Water Is Better Than Bottled

6. Billions of plastic bottles are thrown away each year. Invest in a BPA-free water bottle, fill it up at the tap and you'll save money and reduce plastic use.

Source: eHow.com

50 Outdoor Winter Day Activities for Kids!

1. Make a snow angel by lying on your back in the snow and spreading out your arms to the side then moving them up and down. Get up carefully and see your angel with wing prints.
2. Build a snow fort. Have a snow ball fight.
3. Build a snowman. Give him a carrot nose and a hat.
4. Take a walk and look for animal tracks.
5. Play chase, tag, or hide and seek.
6. Plant pansies. They do well in a moderate climate all winter.
7. Wash the car.
8. Ride your bike or scooter or sled.
9. Jump on a trampoline.
10. Shovel snow.

View the rest of the activities by clicking here!

Source: suite101.com

A special introduction from our Head Gardener, Ursula Allen!

By: Ursula Allen

To You Who Love a Garden,

My fellow Earth Worms and I wish you a very happy New Year.

Let me introduce myself and the other volunteers who are at this time getting their hands into the dirt at Prescott Farm Conservancy. I will proceed in chronological order:

I started gardening at Prescott Farm in June 2000. At first I worked alone, which made me realize that I needed a lot more knowledge than I had, so in 2001 I went through Master Gardener training, also I have learned much by simply making mistakes and starting all over again. I believe that the first commandment of a gardener is you shall weed and that a dirty thumb is the best.

To read more of Ursula's introduction click here.

Volunteer Opportunities

Greeters and sap collectors during March for Maple Sugar Madness programs and school groups

Mammal tracking

* Please check out our website for more details.

Full Moon Snowshoe Walks Schedule

Join us for an opportunity to get outdoors at night and take a walk through the snow under the bright light of a winter's full moon.

We will be offering two snowshoe walks scheduled:

.January 30; 6:30pm-8:30pm
&
February 27; 6:30pm-8:30pm

The fee is \$7 per person or \$5 per person for Prescott Farm members. You are welcome to bring your own snowshoes, but we have snowshoes available if you do not have your own.

*Hot chocolate, tea and coffee will be served after the walk!



Please call 366-5695 in advance to register or e-mail us at info@prescottconservancy.org

For more information about Prescott Farm call 603-366-5695 or visit www.prescottconservancy.org