



Hunterdon Land Trust

Protecting the places you love

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EXPLORE HORSESHOE BEND PARK WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY

THE HUNTERDON LAND TRUST INVITES YOU TO A “DAY ON THE LAND” ON JUNE 9TH

Flemington, NJ — The Hunterdon Land Trust is holding their annual “Day on the Land”

Saturday June 9th. This year’s event will be held at Horseshoe Bend Park in Kingwood

Township.

The Day on the Land will take place June 9th from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. with a rain date of Sunday June 10th, from noon to 4 p.m.. Come see why this park is a place worth protecting.

Horseshoe Bend Park is 313 acres in all, including a section on the east side of Horseshoe Bend

Road now known as Copper Creek Preserve. It is one of the most beautiful spots in western

Hunterdon County, with rolling hills, lush forested ravines, and sweeping vistas of the Delaware

River Valley.

Its high meadows are home to meadowlarks, bobolinks, redwing blackbirds, and many other grassland species. Bald eagles and hawks are believed to nest here. Copper Creek and other small streams flow through the park before tumbling down the bluffs into the Delaware River.

The event will start with the arrival of plein air painters and photographers who will capture the beauty of the park, and donate their creations to the land trust. Photographs and paintings will be auctioned off in the fall to help raise funds for the land trust's preservation work.

The Day on the Land will feature two hikes, led by Richard Dodds of the Kingwood Township Open Space Committee and Bill Rawlyk of the Open Space Institute. At 10 a.m. a guided hike of the high meadow will begin from the north entrance of the park (140 Horseshoe Bend Road, between Route 12 and Spring Hill Road). This hike will start by walking the edge of the meadow to the west of the Morton building for the first half to three quarters of a mile. It will then descend down a moderately steep slope to the ravine and follow the ravine for about a quarter to a half mile before it ascends a gradual hill back through fields to the Morton building. Total hike one to one and a quarter mile.

At 11:30 a hike through the ravine will depart also from the north entrance of the park. The Ravine Walk will head south from the Morton building along the edge of a small field before entering the woods and descending to a stream. The hike continues across 2 more small streams for about a quarter of a mile before coming to the Spring Hill Road entrance road to the park, after which we will cross several more small streams. The trail continues along the main ravine stream back to where we started the walk. This is a longer hike but with no significant vertical challenges. Total hike 2 and a half to 3 miles.

People are also welcome to come explore the park at their own pace and enjoy the natural beauty of the land and the presence of the painters and photographers. All are welcome, but space on the guided hikes is limited. To register or for more information, please contact the Hunterdon Land Trust at 908-237-4582, visit www.hunterdonlandtrust.org, or email the land trust at info@hunterdonlandtrust.org.

Founded in 1996, the Hunterdon Land Trust is committed to preserving and protecting the rural landscapes and natural resources of Hunterdon County. The land trust works with landowners interested in preserving their land either through donation or sale of land or development rights and is grateful for the support of donors and partners who help preserve the natural beauty and resources of Hunterdon County.

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Suggested photo captions: Explore the Horseshoe Bend Park with the Hunterdon Land Trust Saturday June 9. Photo Credits: Dwight Hiscano