



Tyler Programs

Tyler Arboretum Winter Programs and Events 2011-12

Special Events

The Country Gardeners Annual Greens Sale

Saturday, December 3, 9:30 am – 1:30 pm

Enjoy a huge selection of beautiful holiday arrangements and trimmings: fresh greens, hand-made wreaths, swags, ornaments, and other



natural holiday decorations. The Country Gardeners Annual Greens Sale is held at Tyler's Maintenance Building and run by The Country Gardeners of Lima.

For more information, visit

www.thecountrygardeners.com

Free admission for the Greens Sale

Pancake Breakfast & Maple Sugaring Celebration

Saturday, February 25, 8:00 am – 1:00 pm

Snow date: Saturday, March 3

Bundle up and enjoy this annual celebration of the maple tree's yummy offerings. Join one of our ongoing tours

to discover how sap is turned into syrup, and try your hand at tapping a tree. Then, satisfy your appetite in the historic Barn with our famous all-you-can eat pancake and sausage breakfast. Hot coffee and cocoa accompany this delicious wintertime feast.

No pre-registration required. Adults: \$11, Children (ages 3-12) \$6, Under 3 FREE



Gardening and Horticulture

Winter Pruning Workshop

Saturday, January 28, 1:00 – 2:30 pm (snow date: January 29)

Winter is the perfect season for structural pruning, as deciduous shrubs and trees have lost their leaves, revealing their branch structure. Give new life to old overgrown shrubs that are threatening to take over your house, or prune to enhance the beauty and function of your specimen plants. Director of Horticulture **Mike Karkowski** will begin this class indoors with an overview of pruning concepts and

tool tips. Then, he'll lead the group outside to demonstrate how to prune a variety of shrubs and trees.

Pre-registration required; \$12 members, \$15 non-members

Tool Sharpening Workshop

Saturday, February 18, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Sharp pruning tools are easier to use and better for your plants. Winter is a good time to get them into condition and ready for spring. Join Tyler Gardener **Matthew Tornabe** to learn proper techniques for using files and sharpening stones. There will be plenty of time for hands-on practice; Matt will provide guidance as needed. *Bring hand pruners, loppers, hedge shears, shovels, or spades and a pair of lightweight gardening gloves.*

Pre-registration required; \$10 members, \$15 non-members

Botanical Arts

Holiday Wreath Workshops

Sunday, December 4, 1:00 – 3:30 pm; Monday, December 5, 7:00 – 9:30 pm; Tuesday, December 6, 7:00 – 9:30 pm

Create a unique holiday wreath using plant materials from the Arboretum's extensive collections. Tyler staff member **Karen McDonald** will show you how to work with a wide variety of evergreen boughs, as well as cones, berries and seedheads. *Bring pruners and work gloves. Fee includes all materials.*

Pre-registration required; \$35 members, \$40 non-members



Watercolor Studio

Mondays, January 9 through February 13, 12:00 – 3:00 pm (No class on February 6) (Snow date: February 20)

Looking for a way to beat the winter blues? Join other artists to paint the beauty of nature. This studio session is designed for students with some experience in watercolor to work with fellow artists. Instructor **Carol Gangemi** teaches with patience and humor, and she will provide individual instruction and constructive review of your work as you develop individual projects. Work at your own pace in a creative, supportive, and beautiful environment. The primary medium is watercolor, but other techniques are welcome. Come to the first session with all supplies necessary to begin work. *(Call for supply list suggestions, if needed.)*
Pre-registration required; \$175 members, \$189 non-members

Gourd Crafting Workshop

Saturday, February 11, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

For centuries, hard-shell gourds have served as a variety of implements. More recently, they have been used as birdhouses, especially for purple martins. Now, artisans are creating beautiful works of art with these natural garden fruits. Join **Karen McDonald** for a fun winter day creating and decorating gourd birdhouses. *Wear old clothes and bring a brown bag lunch – we will supply the beverages. Fee includes all materials.*
Pre-registration required; \$35 members, \$40 non-members

Natural Studies

Winter Bird Walks

Every Wednesday, 8:15 - 10:15 am

Tyler Arboretum is a wonderful winter haven for many of our feathered friends. Experienced birders **Tom**

Reeves and **Bruce Wyman** have been leading these very popular walks for years and know all the best places to look for winter residents. Birders of all experience levels are welcome. *Bring bird guides and binoculars, if you have them.*

Free with admission; no pre-registration required

Weekday Wildflower Botany Walks

Every Wednesday, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Is there anything to look at in the winter? Wildflower experts **Richard Brenner** and **Dick Cloud** find botanical wonders wherever they venture. Join in the search for plants in their seasonal guises and learn how to identify your favorites from seed stalks, leaf rosettes, and flowers, if it is warm enough.

Free with admission; no pre-registration required

Critter Hunt for Grown-Ups

Saturday, December 10, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Join ecologist and naturalist **Steve Tessler** for a fun and informative nature walk for grown-ups. When you know where to look, there are lots of hidden critters to be found, as well as beautiful fungi, lichens and moss. *Dress for the weather and wear shoes suitable for uneven terrain or wet trails.*

Free with admission; no pre-registration required

Invasive Plant Removal Corps

Sundays, December 11, January 8, February 12, 9:30 am – 12:00 pm

Become a weed warrior and give Mother Nature a hand by helping to remove alien thugs from Tyler's woodlands and meadows. Meet **Dick Cloud** in the Visitor Center. *Wear appropriate work clothes, sturdy shoes or boots, and work gloves.*

No admission fee or pre-registration required

Sunday Wildflower Botany Walks

Sundays, December 11, January 8, or February 12, 1:30 - 3:30 pm

Can't attend our weekday wildflower walks? Join **Dick Cloud** for a pleasant Sunday afternoon walk in our woods and meadows, looking for late- or early-bloomers and other seasonal treasures.

Free with admission; no pre-registration required

Close-Up Encounters: Discovering Nature through the Macro Lens

*Sundays, January 8 and February 5,
10:00 am – 12:00 pm*

Join ecologist and macro-photographer **Steve Tessler** for an evocative one-hour presentation featuring the often hidden aspects of nature at Tyler. Learn something you didn't know about our local spiders, insects, fungi, moss and other creatures, and hear a lively narrative about photographing them up close. Following the classroom session, join Steve for an optional walk to see what you can encounter firsthand. *If intending to join the hike, dress appropriately for the weather. Hot beverages will be provided. Each program date will feature different photos and creatures.*

Free with admission; no pre-registration required

Birding Trip: Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge

Tuesday, January 17, 7:00 am – 5:00 pm

Located at the South Jersey shore, this important area of tidal wetlands and shallow bay habitats is part of the Atlantic Flyway. Join expert birder **Tom Reeves** for a rewarding trip to

the Refuge and Brigantine Island in search of winter waterfowl. *Fee includes transportation, beverages, and a snack; bring lunch and binoculars.*

*Pre-registration required; \$55 members,
\$65 non-members*

Cape Henlopen Area Birding Field Trip

Thursday, February 16, 7:00 am – 7:00 pm

Cape Henlopen and the Indian River Inlet offer wonderful winter birding opportunities. Join **Tom Reeves** in search of short-eared owls, long-tailed ducks, horned larks, snow buntings, purple sandpipers, and harlequin ducks. *Fee includes transportation, beverages, snacks, and dinner; bring lunch and binoculars.*

*Pre-registration required; \$85 members,
\$95 non-members*

Owl Prowl

Friday, February 17, 5:00 – 6:30 pm

Owls are fascinating creatures, but we rarely have a chance to observe them. Take this opportunity during their mating and nesting season to learn more about owls and the myths associated with them. After a diverse indoor program, educator **Sue Lucas** will lead a hike to listen for calls of eastern screech owls. *Hot drinks and*

snacks end the evening. Wear sturdy walking shoes. This program is suitable for adults and children ages 13 and older.

*Pre-registration required; \$8 members,
\$12 non-members*

Youth Programs

Age 3

Teeny Tiny Trackers

Teeny Tiny Tracker programs include an outdoor walk and an indoor activity. Children must be accompanied by an adult; fee is for the child only.

The Colors of Winter

Monday, December 12, 10:00 – 11:00 am

Kids are wonderful observers. This highly sensory program focuses on the colors and shapes unique to winter. *Pre-registration required; \$6 members,
\$8 non-members*

Who Lives Here?

Monday, January 23, 10:00 – 11:00 am

Explore the winter landscape in search of animal life, and then move indoors to learn about animal homes in winter. *Pre-registration required; \$6 members,
\$8 non-members*



Winter Clothes

Monday, February 13, 10:00 – 11:00 am

Learn all about the winter clothes that animals and plants put on to survive the long, cold months.

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Ages 4 – 5

Tiny Trackers

Tiny Tracker programs include a lesson, an outdoor walk, and a craft to take home.

Adults are welcome to accompany children; fee is for the child only.

Tracks, Tracks, Tracks

Thursday, December 15, 10:00 – 11:30 am or 1:00 - 2:30 pm

Discover the different kinds of tracks left by animals. Enjoy a short outdoor walk followed by an indoor program.

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Staying Warm

Thursday, January 12, 10:00 – 11:30 am or 1:00 – 2:30 pm

Many animals call Tyler home during the winter. Come and join the hunt as we seek out their hiding places and learn how they survive through the cold months.

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Squirrely Squirrels

Thursday, February 16, 10:00 – 11:30 am or 1:00 - 2:30 pm

Squirrels abound this time of year, searching for their hidden caches of nuts. Learn about the antics of this animal and his friends—the chipmunks, foxes, and mice.

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Garden Sprouts

Designed to introduce kids to the world of plants and gardens, these programs include stories, crafts and hands-on fun with plants. Children must be accompanied by an adult; fee is for the child only.

Fragrant Plants

Tuesday, December 6, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Search for fragrance in the garden—you will be surprised what you find! Plant a fragrant plant and make a fragrant flower to take home.

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Winter Tree Discoveries

Tuesday, December 20, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Many types of evergreen trees live at the Arboretum. Join our search to collect specimens, and then use them to create take-home decorations.

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Winter Garden Colors

Tuesday, January 10, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Colors abound in the winter garden. Enjoy a search to see how many you can find in the Arboretum, and create a colorful mobile to take home.

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Kitchen Gardening

Tuesday, January 24, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Don't throw away that pit! Learn about growing house plants from carrot tops, avocado pits and even potato eyes. Then, make a plant buddy to take home.

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Plants Helping Animals

Tuesday, February 7, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Explore the Arboretum and discover how trees and winter garden plants provide food and shelter for our furry and feathered friends. Learn to eat like a bird and make a feeder for the birds in your neighborhood.

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members



Photo by Anne Marie Palita



Flowers in Winter

Tuesday, February 21, 1:00 – 2:00 pm

It's not too early for flowers at the Arboretum. Join our search for the earliest bloomers, and then create a pretty flower arrangement to remind you that spring is coming soon.

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Family Programs

Grab the kids and come have fun together at Tyler. Interactive programs let you learn, create, or explore nature and plants. Fee is for each participant.

Natural Critter Ornaments

Saturday, December 3, 10:00 – 11:30 am

Use natural materials such as cones, pods, seedheads, and nuts to create whimsical critters for the holidays. These charming ornaments also make great gifts. We supply the materials; you supply the imagination. *This program is suitable for children ages 6 and older.*

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Homemade Bird Feeders

Saturday, January 21, 10:00 – 11:30 am

Help our birds survive the winter by creating bird feeders made from natural materials. Take them home and watch your feathered friends fly in for a great meal. *This program is suitable for children ages 4 and older.*

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Family Night Hikes

Saturdays, January 14 and February 11, 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Hiking under a winter moon is a magical experience. Learn about which animals and birds may be out at night and see if you can spot them. The night concludes with hot drinks, cookies and a bonfire. *Dress warmly and bring a flashlight. This program is suitable for children age 5 and older.*

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Maple Sugaring Exploration

Saturdays, February 4 and 11, 10:30 am – 12:00 pm

Put on mittens and hats and come to see how maple syrup is made. Begin

indoors with some background about trees and how sap rises in the spring, and then head out to learn about tapping trees and collecting sap. Watch how sap is boiled down over a fire and enjoy a taste of the yummy finished product. *This program is suitable for ages 5 and up.*

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

Owl Prowl

Saturday, February 18, 5:00 – 6:30 pm

Explore the world of these fascinating night creatures and learn about the myths associated with them. Begin the evening with an indoor program by Tyler Educators. Then, take a short hike to listen for calls of the Eastern screech owls (weather permitting). *Hot drinks and snacks offer a delicious end to the evening. Wear footwear appropriate for uneven trails and bring a flashlight. This program is suitable for children age 6 and older.*

Pre-registration required; \$6 members, \$8 non-members

❧ School Holiday Mini-Camps ❧

A day of nature exploration and fun is the perfect solution when your child has a day off and you have to work. These easy-going days are filled with discovery, games, crafts, hikes and projects that are so engaging, the kids won't even know they're learning. Mini-camp hours are 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. Extended care is available for \$10 extra per day starting at 8:00 am and concluding at 5:00 pm. Camp is for children 6 – 9 years old.

Winter Fun: Tracking, Discovering, Creating

Thursday, December 29, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Despite the cold, there's lots of life at the Arboretum. We will look for tracks and other clues to see which animals are out and about, discover how they survive the winter, and have some fun with games and projects.

Pre-registration required; \$50 members, \$55 non-members

Winter Fun: Lenape Life

Friday, December 30, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

The Lenape Indians were masters of survival in our woodlands and meadows. Learn how this peaceful tribe hunted and gathered food, fashioned their clothing, cooked, and created homes—all in harmony with nature. Games and crafts keep the day fun.

Pre-registration required; \$50 members, \$55 non-members

Winter Coats

Monday, January 16, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Why do some trees keep their leaves or needles over the winter and others lose them? Why do some animals fly south and some stick around? Join us on Martin Luther King Day as we get to know some of the trees and animals in the Arboretum.

Pre-registration required; \$50 members, \$55 non-members

Maple Sugaring

Monday, February 20, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Presidents Day falls in the middle of maple sugaring season. Come to the Arboretum and learn about this sweet breakfast treat by tapping a tree, collecting sap, boiling it down, and enjoying delicious maple syrup snacks. In the afternoon, we will venture out to see what other plants are doing this time of year.

Pre-registration required; \$50 members, \$55 non-members

Save The Date

Volunteer Open House

Thursday, March 1, 10:00 – 11:30 am

Get involved! Share your talents...continue learning. Volunteers play a vital role in the operation of the Arboretum. Their assistance enables us to expand and enhance all areas of the organization, and help us to grow as a community resource. Please join us for coffee and baked goods while learning about the many volunteer opportunities that are available. Staff and veteran volunteers will be available to share their experiences and answer questions.

Volunteer Field Trip Leader Training

Tuesdays, March 13, 20, 27, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

If you enjoy nature, kids and learning, consider becoming a volunteer field trip leader. Three training sessions provide all the skills you need. Trips occur weekday mornings and early afternoons.





Tyler

Winter 2011-12

Calendar of Programs & Events

Tyler Arboretum Winter Programs and Events

Weekday Wildflower Botany Walks: Every Wednesday, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
Winter Bird Walks: Every Wednesday, 8:15 – 10:15 am

December

- Sat. Dec. 3** *Special Event: The Country Gardeners Annual Greens Sale*
- Sat. Dec. 3** *Family Program: Natural Critter Ornaments*
- Sun. Dec. 4** *Holiday Wreath Workshop*
- Mon. Dec. 5** *Holiday Wreath Workshop*
- Tue. Dec. 6** *Garden Sprouts: Fragrant Plants*
- Tue. Dec. 6** *Holiday Wreath Workshop*
- Sat. Dec. 10** *Critter Hunt for Grown-Ups*
- Sun. Dec. 11** *Invasive Plant Removal Corps*
- Sun. Dec. 11** *Sunday Wildflower Botany Walk*
- Mon. Dec. 12** *Teeny Tiny Trackers: The Colors of Winter*
- Thu. Dec. 15** *Tiny Trackers: Tracks, Tracks, Tracks*
- Tue. Dec. 20** *Garden Sprouts: Winter Tree Discoveries*
- Thu. Dec. 29** *School Holiday Mini-Camp: Winter Fun: Tracking, Discovering, Creating*
- Fri. Dec. 30** *School Holiday Mini-Camp: Winter Fun: Lenape Life*

January

- Sun. Jan. 8** *Invasive Plant Removal Corps*
- Sun. Jan. 8** *Sunday Wildflower Botany Walk*
- Sun. Jan. 8** *Close-Up Encounters: Discovering Nature through the Macro Lens*
- Mon. Jan. 9** *Watercolor Studio (first session)*
- Tue. Jan. 10** *Garden Sprouts: Winter Garden Colors*
- Thu. Jan. 12** *Tiny Trackers: Staying Warm*
- Sat. Jan. 14** *Family Program: Night Hike*
- Mon. Jan. 16** *School Holiday Mini-Camp: Winter Coats*
- Tue. Jan. 17** *Birding Trip: Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge*
- Sat. Jan. 21** *Family Program: Homemade Bird Feeders*
- Mon. Jan. 23** *Teeny Tiny Trackers: Who Lives Here?*
- Tue. Jan. 24** *Garden Sprouts: Kitchen Gardening*
- Sat. Jan. 28** *Winter Pruning Workshop*

February

- Sat. Feb. 4** *Family Program: Maple Sugaring Exploration*
- Sun. Feb. 5** *Close-Up Encounters: Discovering Nature through the Macro Lens*
- Tue. Feb. 7** *Garden Sprouts: Plants Helping Animals*
- Sat. Feb. 11** *Gourd Crafting Workshop*
- Sat. Feb. 11** *Family Program: Maple Sugaring Exploration*
- Sat. Feb. 11** *Family Program: Night Hike*
- Sun. Feb. 12** *Invasive Plant Removal Corps*
- Sun. Feb. 12** *Sunday Wildflower Botany Walk*
- Mon. Feb. 13** *Teeny Tiny Trackers: Winter Clothes*
- Thu. Feb. 16** *Cape Henlopen Area Birding Field Trip*
- Thu. Feb. 16** *Tiny Trackers: Squirrely Squirrels*
- Fri. Feb. 17** *Owl Prowl*
- Sat. Feb. 18** *Tool Sharpening Workshop*
- Sat. Feb. 18** *Family Program: Owl Prowl*
- Mon. Feb. 20** *School Holiday Mini-Camp: Maple Sugaring*
- Tue. Feb. 21** *Garden Sprouts: Flowers in Winter*
- Sat. Feb. 25** *Special Event: Pancake Breakfast and Maple Sugaring Celebration*

Join our Email List

If you haven't been receiving our monthly e-newsletter and other timely email updates, sign up by visiting www.tylerarboretum.org/member-email.htm

Go green with Tyler! You can also use the online sign-up form to choose email delivery for the Tyler Topics newsletter. This new service will likely begin with the Summer 2012 issue.

Save-the-Date

- Thu. Mar. 1** **Volunteer Open House**
- Tue. Mar. 13, 20, 27** **Volunteer Field Trip Leader Training**

Group Programs

Scout and Youth Group Programs

Tyler Arboretum has year-round programming for Girl and Boy Scouts that fulfills badge and Try-it requirements. For more information and to register, visit www.tylerarboretum.org/educational-programs or call 610-566-9134 x202.

Home School Programs

Bring your home school group to the Arboretum. Our plants, meadows, and streams offer numerous hands-on learning opportunities. In addition to programs developed for traditional schools

(see www.tylerarboretum.org/educational-programs), we can create customized programs to meet your needs. Call 610-566-9134 x202 for more information and registration.

Eco Birthday Parties

Bring your budding naturalist for a memorable celebration at the Arboretum. Surrounded by sights and sounds of nature, your child's special day will be one of exploration, discovery, and fun. Visit www.tylerarboretum.org/weddings-rentals or call 610-566-9134 x202 for reservations and more information.