



FRIENDS OF PACHAUG FOREST

<http://www.friendsofpachaugforest.org>

1st Annual Children's Fishing Derby Day April 13, 2019

The Winner of FoPF's 1st annual fishing derby was Chris who caught the largest fish! It was a 4.21 lb. trout. Chris was presented with a large fishing net by FoPF President Ryan Snide.



Fishing Derby Day was a great success! It was well attended by over 50 folks, most of them under the age of 16.

President Ryan Snide was on hand to give instruction and encouragement. The older folk enjoyed watching the younger ones get the hang of this age-old pastime. Hopefully many new anglers have become lifelong fans!



Derby Day Photo by Jesse Gay



Part of getting ready for this event was cutting trees and shrubs that had encroached on the fishing hatchery.



The reasons for this were evident in the many lures that had gotten stuck in branches. Members of the Board of Directors and others helped out on the weekend before the Derby to clear the area of overhanging trees. They are most responsible for the loss of line and lures that pose an environmental and safety hazard.



The result was an area in which young and old were able to enjoy the delights of an early spring day in the Forest while the young ones learned a skill that can be of benefit to their future lives. What can be better than catching your own fish and then taking it home and cooking it up for a delicious meal!



Derby Day Photo by Jesse Gay

CCC

Civilian Conservation Corps

Come Join Us on May 11, 2019

at 1:00 pm for the

**UNVEILING AND DEDICATION
OF OUR STATES FIRST**

CCC WORKER STATUE

AT

CHATFIELD HOLLOW STATE PARK

381 ROUTE 80

KILLINGWORTH, CT

06419



The first statue to commemorate the CCC Workers in Connecticut will be unveiled on May 11, 2019 @1PM. We are well on the way to making the second one happen for Camp Lonergan in Pachaug State Forest! Please make your tax-deductible donations by check to CCC Legacy and include memo 'CT Statue, Camp Lonergan #179'. Mail to: CCC Legacy, P.O.Box 341 Edinburg, VA 22824

Photos of Lowden Brook, Great Meadow Pond, and the Hodge Pond Area by Bob Panko. Bob will be leading a Trails Days Hike on the Hodge Pond Loop trail June 1st. See Events page for more details.

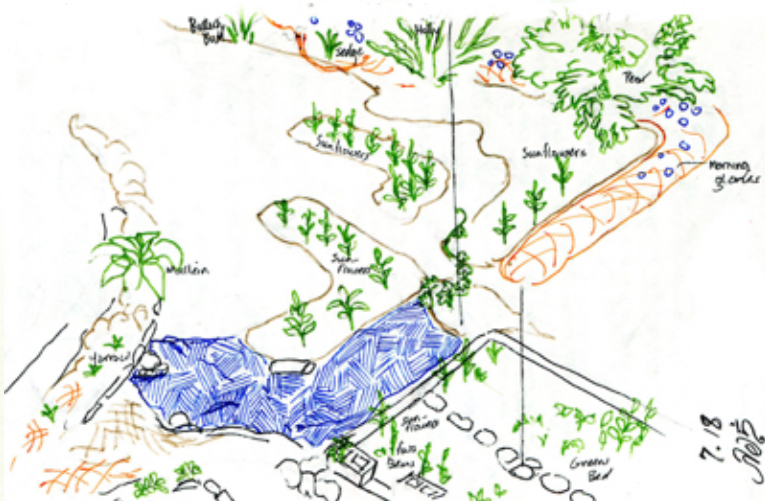




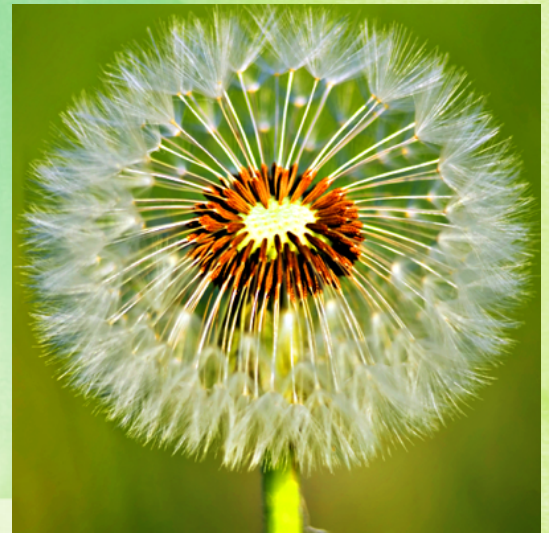
Growing Season

Happy Earth Month! The flowers are exploding this year! At least in my yard. I am sure many of you already have seeds planted and are awaiting eager shoots. Some of you are probably planning and clearing space for gardens. Even if you do not plan on growing food, it is good for the soul to watch something grow from your own efforts. Children especially benefit from this process.

One of the first steps I take in planning is to actually draw out a map of what you want to plant where. This helps with the organization and decision making. I don't necessarily plant things in rows. I like to plan beds that I can access from both sides, which makes weeding easier. It helps to plant a variety of things, such as the 'Three Sisters', beans, corn and squash. The corn provides a stem for the beans to grow up on, and the squash spread out and discourage weeds. This is how the Native Peoples did without herbicides and chemical fertilizers, and their damaging effects. There are books and online resources that give suggestions on companion planting. One that I keep going back to is 'Gaia's Garden' by Toby Hemenway.



Upcoming Programs for May–July 2019



May

◆ **4 - 2nd Quarterly Members Meeting:** 9:00 am Ekonk Grange, 723 Ekonk Hill Road, Sterling, CT. We will enjoy a light Breakfast catered by Lori's Deli and Bake Shop. Following our Directors Updates, fellow FOPF member Robert Raufeisen will provide a presentation on "Backpacking Alaska's Brooks Range and other Northern Adventures". Following the presentation, Breakout Focus Group Sessions will be held to better inform, plan and strategize for the future. **RSVP Required by 4/30/19 to: Susan.fopf@outlook.com**

◆ **18 - Birding with Brian Williams** 12 pm Pachaug State Forest, Trail Road #2. Brian Williams is an expert birder and champion of Pachaug Forest. He and Allison Joslyn, Goodwin Forest Naturalist Apprentice, will be leading a 1-mile leisurely hike to learn about local and migrating bird species of Pachaug Forest. Cold water will be provided.

June

◆ **1 - CT Trails Day Hike:** 10am -12:30 pm Hodge Pond South Loop Trail. Pack a lunch and water. The hike will be led by Vice-President Bob Panko. The hike begin and end at the parking area on the south side of Hodge Pond Road just after crossing Myron Kinney Brook.

◆ **2 - CT Trails Day Hike:** 10am - Noon Heron Pond This hike will be led by Allison Joslyn, Liaison director and Goodwin Forest Naturalist apprentice. The hike will begin on Trail 2 off Route 201.

◆ **2 - CT Trails Day Hike:** 1 pm - 1:45 pm Rhododendron Sanctuary. This wheelchair accessible hike will be led by President Ryan Snide. Look for the life size Smokey the Bear sign at the Rte. 49 Voluntown Entrance, Follow the signs to meet at Chapman Field, and enjoy this walk through one of the most magical trails in the forest.

◆ **8 - Plein Aire Painting:** 9am- 12pm Phillips Pond Picnic Area, Trail Road 1, Voluntown, CT. This will be an intermediate to experienced painting class exploring new techniques with acrylic paints led by instructor Lauren Churchill. Information and materials list available upon registration (required). **RSVP to: lauren.b.churchill@gmail.com. Program fee: \$20 for members/\$25 nonmembers.**

◆ **15 - Nature Photography Day Hike:** 10am - 12 noon Location TBD Join Friends of Pachaug Forest, Inc. as we celebrate Nature Photography Day!

◆ **30 - Kayak/Paddling Lesson:** 10am - noon Hopeville Pond State Park. FOPF member Robert Raufeisen will lead us in a gateway course to the sport of kayaking. The course will be taught in calm, protected water and by day's end you'll feel ready to head out on your own excursion. Life jackets and whistles are mandatory. **Registration is required RSVP to: susan.fopf@outlook.com. Program fee: free to members, \$10 for non-members**

July

◆ **13 - Moonlight Kayak:** 8-10 pm (could go later) Open to members and non-members aged 10+ Meet at Pachaug Pond Boat Launch, Rte. 138, Griswold, CT. Bring your kayak or canoe, flashlight, bug repellent, and snacks. Life jackets and whistles are mandatory. **Registration required RSVP to: susan.fopf@outlook.com**

◆ **14 - Blooming Rhododendron Sanctuary Walk: 9:00 am,** Rhododendron Sanctuary, Pachaug State Forest, Rte. 49 Entrance, Voluntown, Follow the signs to meet at Chapman Field. Allison Joslyn, Goodwin Forest Naturalist Apprentice, and FOPF Liaison Director will be leading this picturesque and educational 1/2-mile stroll. The Rhododendrons are expected to be in bloom! Handicap accessible.

Programs are free to members and non-members unless otherwise noted. Donations are encouraged.

For More Details...

Email: Info@friendsofpachaugforest.org; Visit Our Website

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