



Spring/Summer Newsletter 2018

FRIENDS of the BLACK HILL NATURE PROGRAMS, Inc.

FOBHNP.com



FOBHNP Native Plant Sale

April 26-29, 2018

The 11th Annual Native Plant Sale was held at the Greenhouse located in the Black Hill Regional Park.

It was a big success as we raised \$16,417!

Many of the plants on sale were cultivated locally and most are important food and shelter sources for Maryland butterflies, birds, and array of other pollinators and wildlife.

All proceeds support nature programming at the Black Hill Visitor's Center.



Photos by Karen Plá

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Waterfowl Festival ~ February 11, 2018

The *Friends* were excited to support a fun, activity-filled day that taught visitors about the waterfowl that make their home on Little Lake Seneca in the winter months.

Visitors were encouraged to carve a duck decoy, and learn about duck nest boxes.

Along with crafts, a rubber duck race, and exhibits, a guided tour of the lake gave visitors a chance to view marine ducks and swans, and catch a rare glimpse of the bald eagles.

Photos by Tony Ventouris



How Does Your Garden Grow ~ March 18, 2018

The *Friends* were pleased to support this successful event that welcomed all levels of garden enthusiasts, from the novice to expert.

Naturalists and Master Gardeners were on-hand to share expertise on the joy of gardening.

There were activities for the whole family, to include identifying and potting plants, and board games.

A harpist entertained visitors with beautiful music to accompany the surrounding

natural beauty of the Black Hill Regional Park.



Photos by Karen Plá

SEED Classroom

The *Friends*, in partnership with the Montgomery Parks Foundation and the *Friends* of Ten Mile Creek, sponsored a successful wine and cheese kick-off event in March that raised awareness and \$7,000 for the SEED classroom.



The *Friends* have pledged \$10,000 for the project, Wegman's has donated \$10,000, Direct Energy has donated \$23,000 and Mohawk Carpeting has agreed to donate the carpet for the classroom. Jen Scully spoke to the Maryland General Assembly to request a bill be introduced to gain a bond for the project. Other funds will be solicited as well.



Help Fund the Seed Classroom

Mudfest ~ June 23, 2018

The *Friends* were thrilled to support the inaugural Mudfest at the Woodstock Equestrian Park to celebrate International Mud Day!

We had 500 curious family members join us for this awesome event.

We had five acres of mud holes, puddles and slides where kids were able to slip all over the place! They cooked up their favorite mud pie in our kitchen, and channeled their inner artist to create a muddy masterpiece. Everyone enjoyed food, drink and great music.

Never was getting dirty so much fun!



Save the Date

Monarch Fiesta ~ Sep 22 from 11-3 pm
Black Hill Visitor Center
Boyd, Maryland

Annual Meeting ~ Nov 2 from 5-9 pm
Black Hill Visitor Center
Boyd, Maryland



Friends Board Meetings

The *Friends* will meet quarterly during the 2018 calendar year. Meetings will be held at 10:00 a.m. in the Visitor Center, unless otherwise announced.

Meeting dates will continued to be shared with the *Friends* membership via e-mail for the remaining months of September and December.



FRIENDS of the BLACK HILL NATURE PROGRAMS, Inc.

Black Hill Regional Park
20926 Lake Ridge Drive
Boys, MD 20841

Nature Programs Information:
301-528-3493
Nature & Group Programs
Reservations: 301-528-3492



Organization



Photo by Karen Plá

GET INVOLVED!

Formed in April 2001, the *Friends* support, promote, and sustain the nature programs and special events conducted by the interpretative naturalist staff at the Black Hill Visitor Center. We believe that these educational programs are the heart of the park.

The Board Members are:

Sheila MacLeod, *President*

Claudia Golenda, *Vice-President
and Acting Membership Secretary*

Mary McKnight, *Acting Treasurer*

Karen Plá, *Secretary*

Tina Soule, *Member*

Monika Laws, *Member*

Keri Perez, *Member*



Join the FOBHNP and receive member benefits now!

- ⇒ Receive a discount on many nature programs at Black Hill.
- ⇒ Ensure that the natural and cultural history programs at the park continue.
- ⇒ Become involved with issues that affect the programs.
- ⇒ Attend events conducted just for our *Friends* group such as van and kayak trips, picnics, pontoon boat tours, hikes and natural history training sessions.
- ⇒ Work closely with the park naturalists as you volunteer your time.
- ⇒ Gain a sense of satisfaction in helping our friends and neighbors of all ages experience and preserve nature.

join us!



To download a copy of the FOBHNP Member application, visit the web:

<https://www.montgomeryparks.org/parks-and-trails/black-hill-nature-programs/friends-of-bhnp/>

Mail your FOBHNP application to:

Friends of Black Hill
20926 Lake Ridge Drive
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