Vernal Pool Walk at Swartswood

Friday, May 1st at 7:15 pm



When the first early spring rains come, thousands of salamanders, frogs, and toads emerge from their winter slumber. They make short, stealthy migrations through the forest to breed and lay their eggs in vernal pools.

What makes a vernal pool so special?

What other unexpected creatures are swimming in its shallow waters?

Come see for yourself! Explore the magic of a vernal pool in springtime

When: Friday, May 1st from 7:15-8:30 pm

Where: Meet at the Duck Pond Multi Use Trail Area across the road from Swartswood State Park's main entrance (#1091 County Road 619, Newton). Extra parking is available inside the main entrance.

Details: A half-mile hike to a vernal pool (1 mile round-trip), where we'll explore an ecosystem that most people will never see! Guaranteed to be blasted by the songs of Spring Peepers and to discover salamander eggs, fairy shrimp, and other unique creatures as evening sets in.

RSVP: The experience is free and family-friendly, but space is limited. RSVP to Kelly Triece (leader) with your name, phone #, and group size by April 25th.

908-852-2576 ext. 122 or Kelly.Triece@ConserveWildlifeNJ.org.

What to Bring: Your own flashlight! Sun will set at 7:50 pm, so the woods will be dark on our way out.

<u>Clean</u> rubber boots are best footwear, but not critical. Dress warm.



Spring Peeper calling. © John F. Bunnell



