

Vernal Pool Walk at Swartswood

Thursday, April 17th at 7:00 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: Thursday, April 17th from 7:00-8:15 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.

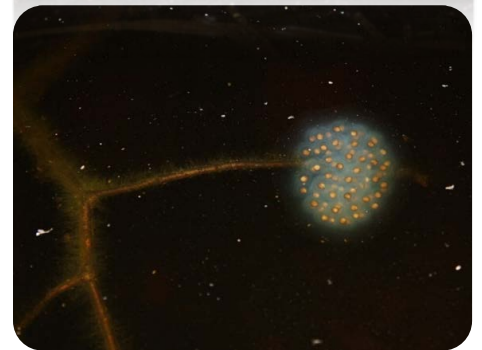
RSVP: The experience is free and family-friendly, but space is limited. Must RSVP to MacKenzie Hall (leader) with your name, phone #, and group size by April 15th. 908-782-4614 ext. 104 or MacKenzie.CWF@gmail.com.

What to Bring: Your own flashlight! Sun will set at 7:40 pm, so the woods will be dark on our way out.

Clean rubber boots are best footwear, but not critical. Dress warm.



^ Spring Peeper calling. © John F. Bunnell



^ Spotted Salamander egg mass. © M. Hall



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