

Fair Hill Nature Center

January 2004

WHAT'S THE BUZZ ?

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, January 24 12:00 CSI MAMMALS - Discover "who ate it" by examining mammal skulls; presented by Leslie Kordella of Wildlife Habitat Council. Age 8+.

Saturday, February 7 10:00 am ANIMAL TRACKS
Identify the local critters by the tracks they leave behind. We may have snow or just mud but you'll have a great time searching for the telltale signs of our animal neighbors. Meet at the Nature Center to begin this adventure.

Saturday, March 6 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm MAPLE SUGARING
Sugar from a tree? Natural and free? How can that be? Come and learn! We do it the old—fashioned way. Tap the tree and boil up a taste of real maple syrup.

Saturday, March 6 2:30 pm – 4:00 pm BLUEBIRD PROGRAM
Maybe you won't have a bluebird "on your shoulder" but you're sure to attract these wonderful birds to your neighborhood when you learn how. The workshop will cover nest box construction, predator control, monitoring, food and habitat needs and more. \$6.00 nest box materials fee for all and an additional fee of \$3.00 for nonmembers.

Friday, March 19 (rain date on 20th) 8:00 pm – 9:30 pm STARRY, STARRY NIGHT
Join astronomer **Linda Tinsman** in viewing the spring heavens at Fair Hill the way you've never seen them before! Bring a blanket, warm clothes, a flashlight, and your sense of wonder as you view the best show ever – our universe.

*Unless otherwise noted these programs are free to members and \$3.00 for nonmembers.

GIVING THE GIFT OF LIFE INSURANCE

Life insurance provides significant leverage when gifting it to the Nature Center, making it possible to give a significant amount at a relatively small cost. A donor can either:

- 1) purchase a life insurance policy and name the Nature Center as the beneficiary
- 2) give the Nature Center a policy previously owned by transferring ownership, or
- 3) give the Nature Center cash to purchase a life insurance policy in your name

Perhaps the easiest of these methods is the third - giving cash to the Nature Center which is used to pay premiums on a life insurance policy, on the life of the donor, but owned by the Nature Center. The Nature Center would receive the death benefit, while the donor would receive a charitable income tax deduction for the gift of cash.

The first option, purchasing a life insurance policy and naming the Nature Center as the beneficiary, is appropriate for a donor who wants the right to revoke a gift. The donor can do so by simply changing the beneficiary on the policy. The donor would receive an estate tax deduction for the portion of the death benefit going to the Nature Center.

We hope this explanation of a charitable giving technique has provided you with some ideas for sharing your philanthropic resources with your community.

ROGER, THEY COPY!

Well... the staff at the Nature Center would like to copy but it gets more and more difficult with an old, worn out copy machine. The nature Center needs a new (or one in really excellent shape) copier. Unfortunately, not all staff work is in fields and streams teaching youngsters about the great outdoors. There is a lot of office work and we're looking for a 2004 Santa to give the Nature Center an office copier.

THE THREE "Rs" AT THE NATURE CENTER

The three Rs taught to young children participating in Nature Center activities are (1) REDUCE (2) RE-USE and (3) RE-CYCLE. These three fundamentals of preserving the scarce resources of our environmentally fragile world are woven throughout the Nature Center curriculum. We are teaching our next generation of citizens to think about the long-term consequences of their actions today and how they can help make our nation a better place to live.

THANK YOU SO MUCH!

The Nature Center, its members, staff, Directors, and parent and child participants in our educational programs would like to say "thank you" to the following companies and organizations that contributed major financial gifts this year. If newsletters could clap, we'd give you a standing ovation! Thanks to **ATK** for their check to be used for building maintenance. Thanks to **Advantage Autoland, Air Products, Basell USA, Cecil County Bar Association, Conectiv, County Banking and Trust, W.L. Gore and to Cecilton and Rising Sun Lions Clubs** for contributions going toward our Outreach Program. We also need to thank **Andy of the Corner Garden in Fair Hill** for the beautiful mums donated to the Nature Center. We want to thank **Sarah Wright** for donating her time on December 6 for our Santa Hayride program. Thanks to **all of you** who have contributed through **United Way**. And, last but not least, we want to thank **Fair Hill Stables** for braving the snow & providing the Hayride with Santa.

The Staff at Fair Hill Nature Center

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