

Community Activities for the Greenway and Trails Committee

The following activities/projects/events are under consideration:

1. Plant and maintain a flower and vegetable garden
2. Donate the food grown to a local food bank. This could also be used as fundraiser at Hardscrabble Day.
3. Plant items that attract butterflies, moths, etc. so that they can be monitored and studied.
4. Hold a weekly hike on a different trail each week. Regular hikes, bird walks, nature rambles as insect, plant, or wildlife observations could be done. This would be a great family and 8 to 80 activity for Red Hook.
5. Keep track of the hours each person walks and award patches or hats or T-shirts or pins with a special logo from the Committee. Perhaps local businesses would support this.
6. The Watermann Bird Club in Dutchess County holds weekly Wednesday morning walks and Saturday morning walks; they also have a youth bird watch program. This adds to the richness of trail use.
7. Coordinating with Hudsonia or Tivoli Bays to develop youth programs is also a possibility.
8. Over the winter months with adult supervision youth in the community could build bluebird houses, set poles, and mount the houses in very early spring in fields along trails to create and maintain a bluebird trail in the Town of Red Hook. Money for this project could be raised by the sale of constructed bluebird houses or other bird houses on Apple Blossom Day or Hardscrabble Day.
9. Adopt a watershed program at streams and wetlands in the Recreation Park. Many topics can be explored in this area. Environmental clubs from the Middle School, High School, and Bard College may participate in this as part of a community education project.
10. Weekly nature rambles are social activities, educational activities, and fitness activities suitable for all ages. To be successful such a program would probably require a published schedule with specified activity leaders, etc. Perhaps this could be coordinated with the Recreation Commission.