

Blazingstar Learning Centre

2011 Activity Calendar

Working with native plants over the past decade has led to a deeper appreciation of the interconnectedness of all living things. Acorus Restoration- Native Plant Nursery, has extended its devotion and appreciation for nature by creating the Blazingstar Learning Centre. This centre will offer a variety of presentations and courses, interactive workshops, classes, hikes and activities within a great diversity of topics. The main themes of our events include; Yoga and meditation, gardening with native plants, ecology education, and restoration and habitat creation. Suitable for novice to experienced, first time gardener to avid green-thumb, and there's always something fun for the kids!

A 32 foot yurt is the setting of these offerings and provides an excellent classroom learning environment. However, just beyond the yurt lies 95 acres of restored prairie, forest, meadow and wetland habitat where most of the learning and exploration will take place.

Please continue to check for event listing updates on the website: blazingstar.ca

Yoga Classes

Tuesdays 6:00 pm - Paul Morris - Starting March 22

Thursdays 7:00 pm with Stephanie

Saturdays 9:00 am with Inga

Connect with your body and breath, strengthen and tone your muscles, increase your flexibility and balance, and relax deeply into meditation. We practice Ashtanga Yoga otherwise known as Power Yoga and offer energetic classes. All classes are suitable for beginner to intermediate students.

Cost: By donation - the centre is non-profit and supported by donations (pay what you can \$10-15 suggested)

Classes are drop in

Group Meditation

Tuesdays 7:30 pm Starting March 22

Follows yoga class

Since ancient times meditation has been a path to inner peace, joy and compassion. Come and join us for sitting and walking meditation to connect with your inner stillness.

Cost: By donation- the centre is non-profit and supported by donations

Earth Day – Acorus Restoration Opening Day for Retail

Saturday April 30, 2011, 10:00am to 5:00pm

Come out and be the first to check out the new selection of plants for Acorus Restoration Native Plant Nurseries 16th year. While you're here, take a walk on our trails and explore the gardens and ponds.

Gardening & Landscaping with Native Plants

Saturday April 30, 2011

10:00am-12:00

Gardening & Landscaping with Native Plants presentation with open question period with Paul Morris for all your natural landscaping questions. Please bring photos, aerial photos or drawings of your property.

Cost/person: \$30.00

Please register by April 15

Kids Seed Planting Event

Saturday April 30, 2011

10:00am-12:00

Come and plant some seeds. Receive a free seed packet of Black eyed Susan for your garden and take home your potted seed and watch it grow. While you're here you can explore the kids trail and look for frogs in our ponds!

Cost: By donation- the centre is non-profit and supported by donations

**If you have any questions or would like to register for a workshop please phone
(519) 586-2603 or email info@blazingstar.ca www.blazingstar.ca**

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Music by Local Artists!

Saturday April 30, 2011 - 1:00-4:00pm

Attracting Birds and Butterflies to Your Sanctuary

with Paul Morris

Saturday May 14, 2011

10:30 – 12:00pm

Urbanized properties for the most part are deserts to birds and butterflies. What are the conditions needed to attract those denizens of the sky? We will explore the elements of food, cover, and water to make sanctuaries for our flying friends. Take home a plant!

Cost: By donation- the centre is non-profit and supported by donations (pay what you can \$10.00 suggested)

Please register by May 1

Birds and Butterflies Children's Activities

Saturday May 14, 2011

10:30 – 12:00pm

For National Wildlife Week join us for a guided hike and explore the wonders of nature. You will learn about creating habitats for wildlife and maybe even see some!

Cost: By donation- the centre is non-profit and supported by donations (pay what you can \$5.00 suggested)

Please register by May 1

Naturefest

May 28-29, 2011

At BLAZINGSTAR HOLISTIC LEARNING CENTRE

www.blazingstar.com

YOGA FOR BODY AND SOUL

Two sessions each day:

9:00 am – 10:00 am and 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm

An introductory yoga class accommodating all ages and levels of physical activity. Yoga reduces stress and tension, helps you to naturally boost your immune system and open your heart; restores, renews, soothes and pacifies your nervous system; relaxes muscle tension, and quietens your mind.

For directions and map visit www.blazingstar.com

Cost: By donation- the centre is non-profit and supported by donations (pay what you can \$10.00 suggested)

ACORUS RESTORATION TALK AND WALK

Leader: Paul Morris

Saturday May 28, 2011

10:00am – 12:00pm

Come and learn about the restoration techniques used on this former 95 acre tobacco farm. A guided walk through an ecosystem wonderland will showcase the technique of controlled burning in the restoration of prairie ecosystems.

Max: 15; Cost: \$10

Register at <http://www.naturefest.ca/registration/>

Or call 1-877-743-8687

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EVENING ACTIVITIES

Saturday May 28, 2011

7:00 pm-10:00 pm

Bon Fire: Bring a blanket or chair and enjoy the night's sky beside a warm fire
Creatures of the night: observe amazing moths & listen to singing frogs!

Or if you're afraid of the dark...

Come watch a family friendly environmental movie in the Yurt!

For directions visit www.ecologyart.com

ACORUS RESTORATION TALK AND WALK

Leader: Paul Morris

Sunday May 29 ,2011

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Come and learn about the restoration techniques used on this former 95 acre tobacco farm, which has. A guided walk through an ecosystem wonderland will showcase the technique of controlled burning in the restoration of prairie ecosystems.

Max: 15; Cost: \$10

Register at <http://www.naturefest.ca/registration/>

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Naturefest

May 28-29, 2011

ALL DAY DROP-IN ACTIVITIES

At BLAZINGSTAR HOLISTIC LEARNING CENTRE

www.blazingstar.com

\$5/PERSON, PAYABLE AT SITE

BOOTHS AND DISPLAYS BY LOCAL ARTISTS AND BUSINESSES!

SEED BALL WORKSHOP

A fun hands on activity for the whole family! Combine peat moss, sand, clay, native plant seeds and water to create a half inch diameter model of the living world, containing all the seeds needed for a complete habitat, or home garden.

INTERPRETIVE DISPLAYS

Plants and animals of the Pond

Think only fish and frogs benefit from water? You may be surprised at how many organisms rely on a wetland or pond ecosystem for survival. Come explore the ponds on the farm and discover who sings, eats, sleeps, and hunts there!

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Small to tall

Did you know that some seeds and nuts need fire to help them germinate or for a bird to eat them first before they can grow? Come observe the stages of life of some of our favorite native species!

Scavenger Hunt!

This self guided activity will lead you to interesting ecosystems on the farm and along the trails, and give you clues about what plants and animals you can find!

RESTORATION WORKSHOP

Calling all green thumbs! Want to help create a sanctuary for our local pollinators? Using pre-made seed balls, and potted plants you can create a wildflower garden onsite to support the bee and butterfly populations in Norfolk County.

Beginners Plant Identification

with Paul Morris

Saturday July 23, 2011

10:00-12:00pm

Weed or Wildflower? Ever wanted to figure out what that interesting plant is? Learn how to identify plants for yourselves. We will look at the plant characteristics that help us identify a variety of plants and work with plant keys to figure out just what that plant is.

Cost: By donation- the centre is non-profit and supported by donations (pay what you can \$20.00 suggested)

Please register by July 1

Children's Activity

Saturday July 23, 2011

10:00-12:00pm

Come out and learn what it takes for a plant to survive in different ecosystems; ponds, streams, forests, prairies.

Cost: By donation- the centre is non-profit and supported by donations

Secret Lives of Wildflowers

August 20th, 2011

12:00-3:00pm

With a guided walk and presentation explore the aesthetic, recreational, biological, medicinal, and economic value of wildflowers and why conserving them is so important.

Cost: By donation- the centre is non-profit and supported by donations

Please register by August 1

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Natural Foods and Wild Edibles

with Paul Morris

Saturday September 17, 2011

10:30am-12:00 pm

Come and explore the bounty of nature as we explore the culinary treasures of the wild lands around us. Harvest and prepare edible plants around the farm and sample some treats!

Cost: By donation- the centre is non-profit and supported by donations (pay what you can \$20.00 suggested)

Family Activity

Saturday September 17, 2011

1:00pm-4:00pm

A wilderness Challenge of photo orienteering and lessons in what to pack in your hiking backpack, what you need to start a fire, what makes a good camping site, etc.

Cost: By donation- the centre is non-profit and supported by donations

Soap Making

with Catherine Riley-Arenburg

Saturday October 1, 2011

1:00pm-4:00pm

Explore the traditional art of making soap hands on. We will be making cold process soap from scratch and learning about the properties of the ingredients used including essential oils and herbs. You will leave with a recipe to try at home and some handcrafted soap.

Cost: \$50.00 (6 people minimum)

Please register by September 15

**TO REGISTER PLEASE CALL 519-586-2603 OR EMAIL info@ecologyart.com
722 6th Concession Road, RR#1, Walsingham, Ontario, N0E 1X0**

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