



BROOKDALE PARK CONSERVANCY

Next
Month's
Meeting
FEBRUARY 24TH

January, 2009

JOHN PALOMAKI: PROMOTING ECO- CONSCIENCE LIVING



John Palomaki, founder and president of GreeninNJ, will be the keynote speaker for the BPC's January 27 meeting at the Brookdale Reformed Church, located next to the Bellevue Avenue entrance to the park.

Palomaki uses educational outreach programs and his website (greeninnj.org) to promote green living and working in our state, a mission he brings closer to home with his newly-created Greener Bloomfield group, which is currently taking an active role in the planning of Bloomfield's downtown redevelopment project.

A member of the U.S Green Building Council—a non-profit devoted to making green buildings available to everyone within a generation—Palomaki lives his philosophy: He is currently overhauling his 1930's vintage colonial-style home on Brookdale Park to earn the coveted distinction of a LEED platinum rating, using everything from FSC-

certified lumber and locally-sourced interior materials to solar panels and post-consumer recycled products where ever possible. After Palomaki speaks, he will entertain questions from the audience.

ESSEX COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

The ECEC is located in West Essex Park which stretches along six miles of the Passaic River starting at Bloomfield Avenue in Fairfield and ending just beyond South Orange Avenue in Livingston.

Opened in May 2005, this state-of-the-art facility was constructed as an environmentally sensitive building using natural and recycled materials, innovative energy saving technologies, and topped by a "green roof" for the purpose of storm-water management. It also houses a large public meeting room, interactive exhibits, a wet lab, and a library.

Grounds include a mile of trails in a wooded wetland habitat with access to the Upper Passaic River. On site are Garibaldi Hall, used by the NJ Audubon Society and home of the Essex County Master Gardeners gardening helpline (973-228-2210), fishing & boating areas, a greenhouse and gardens, a raised boardwalk, and picnic areas.

UPCOMING EVENTS

At The Essex County Environmental Center
621-B Eagle Rock Ave, Roseland, NJ 07068
973-228-8776

NJ WOODTURNERS

Monday, January 26 - 7pm to 10pm

Discover the wonders of creating art from found pieces of wood, wood species, and turning tips & techniques. Call for details. Meet at Garibaldi Hall. \$7/adult; Free for NJWA members

BEGINNING NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY

Wednesday, February 4 - 7pm to 9pm

Join award-winning Master Nature Photographer Phil Echo in this workshop to learn the ins and outs. \$7/adult; Free for ECNP members

STARRY NIGHTS

Thursday, February 5 - 7pm to 9pm

Join staff and amateurs for a night of star gazing and discovery with a brief indoor tutorial, then venture outdoors. \$5/child; \$7/adult; \$9/family

ECO-VILLAGES

Tuesday, February 10 - 7pm to 9pm

Learn all about the ecological, economic, social, cultural, and spiritual aspects of sustainability in eco-villages world-wide from Diana Christian. \$7/adult; Free for WEPC/Sierra Club members

MELT & POUR SOAP MAKING WORKSHOP

Saturday, February 14 - 11am to 2pm

Expert Natasha Claremont will teach the basics. Natural, environmentally friendly, creative, & cleansing! Take home a variety of soaps. Bring lunch. \$45

NEW JERSEY AUDUBON HIKES

Dave Hall sets an easy pace, and most of the trails are level and wide; a few have steep trail sections and are a little muddy. Contact The Sherman-Hoffman Sanctuary: 908.766.5787 for info and registration. \$6/NJAS members, \$8/non-members.

