



GREEN VALLEYS
WATERSHED
ASSOCIATION

Summer ECO Camp 2026

Weekly Outdoor Adventures

For youth ages 6 to 12

June 15 – August 21





Summer ECO Camp 2026



Every Child Outside (ECO) Camp at Welkinweir Preserve

Weekly outdoor adventures June 15 – Aug 7
All Camp WACKY Weeks August 10-21
Play, explore, and discover on 224 acres!
Before and After Care Available
Camp Scholarships Available
Call or email for application

Dates	Weekly Theme	Bullfrogs Ages 6-7 9:00 – 3:00	Turtles Ages 8-9 9:00 – 3:00	Hérons Ages 10-12 9:00 – 3:00
June 15 - 19	<i>Adventure</i>	Rompers & Stompers	Wild & Wandering	My Side of the Mountain (field trip)
June 22 - 26	<i>Water</i>	Water Wizards (all camp field trip)	Water Streamers (All camp field trip)	River Runners (2 field trips)
June 29 – July 2 *No camp on July 3rd	<i>Arts</i>	SmARTS	The Producers	Art Attack
July 6 - 10	<i>Flora & Fauna</i>	Dragonflies & Dandelions	Lowlifes & Highlifes	Creature Features (field trip)
July 13 - 17	<i>Adventure</i>	Rockers & Rollers	Adventures & Beyond	Dare I? (field trip)
July 20 - 24	<i>Water</i>	Puddles & Ponds (all camp field trip)	Water WOWS (all camp field trip)	Drizzle & Drench (2 field trips)
July 27 - 31	<i>Arts</i>	Doodle Bugs	Art All Around	Earth Canvassers (field trip)
August 3 - 7	<i>Flora & Fauna</i>	Beastly Neighbors	Friends & Foes	My Favorite Things (Field trip)
August 10-14	WACKY Week	(Water, Arts, Creatures, Kooky stuff & You!)	All campers 6 -12	One Group
August 17-21	WACKY Week	(Water, Arts, Creatures, Kooky stuff & You!)	All campers 6 -12	One Group

**Green Valleys Watershed Association,
1368 Prizer Road, Pottstown, PA 19465.**

Online Registration at www.greenvalleys.org/summer-nature-day-camp
For assistance or questions, email camp@greenvalleys.org or 610-469-4900

ECO Camp

Unplug the kids and let the outdoors do the teaching! GVWA's ECO camps are the perfect outlet for kids this summer! They'll keep learning and growing through outdoor play, exploration, physical activity, creativity, and friendship. Backed by research, kids will have happier, healthier learning experiences in a camp setting that relies on outdoor activity. While no two weeks of our camp are the same, all weeks include problem-solving, team building, learning about our natural world, and becoming better environmental stewards. Through our wide range of activities, campers will learn valuable skills that may help them academically, socially, and maybe even professionally. When did you know you wanted to be an aquatic scientist? ECO Camp! An environmental engineer? ECO camp! An urban planner? A landscape architect? An environmental lawyer? Turn them on to experiences, adventures, and skills they won't get anywhere else, all provided by kid-friendly, kind-hearted, outdoor-passionate trained staff.

Green Valleys Watershed Association is a member-supported, non-profit organization whose mission is to protect, preserve, and restore the waterways of northern Chester County. Our headquarters, Welkinweir, is a beautiful 224-acre preserve in rural East Nantmeal Township, open for visiting throughout the year. Please visit our website to learn more, or to support our important mission through membership:

www.greenvalleys.org/support

What makes our camp special?

- A camper-to-counselor ratio of 12-to-2
- Special guest presentations that compliment each camp week's theme, including live animal demonstrations, special team-building activities, and experts in nature-based recreational activities (such as birding)
- Unique field trips for campers 10 to 12; 2 weeks of all camp field trips
- A beautiful outdoor location

Our Camp Staff

Camps are staffed by lead (age 17+) and assistant (age 16+) camp counselors; all of which have previous experience working with or educating children. Our **leader-in-training** week for **13-year-olds**, and a **two week counselor-in-training program** for **14- & 15-year olds**, helps campers learn about the natural environment, native plants and animals, and how to be caring stewards of the Earth.

All staff and volunteers have passed the necessary background checks and are certified in CPR and first aid.

Interested in working as a counselor or in the LIT or CIT programs, please contact us at camp@greenvalleys.org or 610-469-4900.

Bullfrogs

Children ages 6 and 7; runs 9:00am – 3:00pm.

Rompers and Stompers

Week 1: June 15-19

Romp around the Welkinweir property! Find critters, shoot arrows (at targets), eat berries off the vine, catch fish, stomp in the creek, build shelters, go on a treasure hunt and so much more! Adventure is the name of the game this week and you'll find it all around!

Water Wizards

Week 2: June 22-26

There are so many ways to get wet and wild with water this week! Catch water critters like tadpoles and salamanders, play water games, do water wizard experiments, and take an all camp field trip to Marsh Creek State Park to play at the lake. This week also includes the ECO Camp boat race, so use your wizardry to create a winner (or at least not a sinker)!

smARTS (Silly & Musical Arts)

Week 3: June 29-July 2 (4-day camp week; no camp on July 3rd)

Get your sillies ready for a creative week at camp. Make your own musical instruments and create a band! Write and put on a nature show. Match colors and shapes on a nature hike and make creations inspired by what is all around you in the outdoors. The sky's the limit when it comes to being creative! Just add kids to add the sillies!

Dragonflies and Dandelions

Week 4: July 6-10

Catch critters of the pond, stream, and field. Dig for worms. Create a flower bouquet. Make a bug box. Catch a fish. When it comes to plants and animals of Welkinweir, there is no end to the fascination, beauty and variety that nature provides.

Rockers & Rollers

Week 5: July 13-17

Surprises are all around when you dare to go adventuring! Hike the trails, roll down the hills, build with rocks. Of course, during your adventuring, you'll meet salamanders and tadpoles and lots of other creatures. This week includes archery, a treasure hunt, and outdoor cooking!

Bullfrogs (continued)

Puddles and Ponds

Week 6: July 20-24

Water, water, everywhere. And there's not a drop to spare. . .from you! Explore all the waterways at Welkinweir. Catch pond critters, explore the creek, and go fishing! This week features an **all-camp field trip** to Marsh Creek State Park for hiking and wading in the lake and the ECO Camp boat race!

Doodle Bugs

Week 7: July 27-31

Doodle, color, paint, sing, sculpt. Do it all with style and color! Let Welkinweir inspire you to create clay creatures of your own imagination and then build them a forest home. Create art using rocks, leaf, bark rubbings, and the natural colors of the outdoors. Make up your own silly songs about the critters you find and maybe even put on a show!

Beastly Neighbors

Week 8: August 3-7

Catch critters of the field with nets and traps. Use strainers to catch pond critters and rods to catch fish. Watch monarchs grow from caterpillar to adult. Turn over rocks and see who hides there. Exploring the waters, the fields, the cracks, and the crevices of Welkinweir just may lead you to some delightful findings, as well as some beastly neighbors!

Bullfrogs Fees

Weeks 1,4,5,7,8	Week 3	Week 2, 6
GVWA Members - \$285	GVWA Members - \$250	GVWA Members - \$300
Nonmember - \$345	Nonmember - \$310	Nonmember - \$360

WACKY WEEK (Water, Arts, Creatures, Kooky stuff & You!)

Week 9: August 10-14 Week 10: August 17-21

All campers ages 6-12! Includes an off-site field trip each week

Work with your counselors to decide as a group what you want to do on site. Day one will include some team building and decision-making and the rest of the days will be decided by your group including ponding, creeking, hiking and so much more. This week is reserved for all ages with a maximum of 16 campers.

Fee for members: \$335 / week; non-members: \$395 / week

Turtles

Children ages 8 and 9; runs 9:00am – 3:00pm.

Wild & Wandering

Week 1: June 15-19

Get wild wandering Welkinweir. Look for owl pellets, catch worms, go fishing, go on a scavenger hunt, build a shelter, practice archery, cook out on a fire. Play Hungry, Hungry HOC's (herbivores, omnivores, carnivores) and explore, explore, explore the nature that abounds.

Water Streamers

Week 2: June 22-26

Make a waterscope, catch critters of the pond and stream, go fishing and stay cool with water games. This week, you'll go on an all-camp field trip to Marsh Creek State Park to play in the water and explore the park. Create your boat for the ECO Camp boat race and join the competition at the end of the week!

The Producers

Week 3: June 29-July 2 (4-day camp week; no camp on July 3rd)

Lights, camera, action! Let the colors and textures of camp inspire the producer in you! Collect rocks, flowers, leaves, and more to make all sorts of artistic creations. Make clay critters of your imagination and create a home for them. Share your creations through a video created by your team of producers!

Lowlifes and Highlifes

Week 4: July 6-10

Look low for worms and salamanders; look high for birds and nests. Explore all around the Welkinweir property to find life down low in the streams and ponds, and high in the trees and sky. Flowers, trees, dragonfly larvae, bird nests, and groundhog holes are all just a glance away if you learn how to look for them! And, of course, binoculars help!

Adventures and Beyond!

Week 5: July 13-17

What does it take to be an adventurer? Skills, skills, skills! Build a shelter, cook over a fire, fish, practice first aid basics, shoot a bow and arrow, get lost, get found! So many escapades await you when you are a true adventurer!

Turtles (continued)

Water WOWs

Week 6: July 20-24

The wonders of water never cease! Explore it, play in it, catch stuff in it, experiment with it! This week is full of water play like pond probing, fishing, bubble blowing, water coloring, and so much more! You'll also make your own boat to compete in the ECO Camp boat race and go on an all-camp field trip to Marsh Creek State Park for fishing and wading.

Art all Around

Week 7: July 27-31

Inspiration abounds in the natural world around you. Do leaf rubbings, make headbands. Create your own clay animals and build them a habitat, name them, and present a kooky animal cheer for them! Painting, clay work, weaving, music: it's all a part of Art All Around!

Friends & Foes

Week 8: August 3-7

Frogs and tadpoles, salamanders and wild berries, deer tracks and catfish: animal friends abound! But be on the lookout for foes as well. Learn to identify poison ivy, avoid ticks, and find snakes. Catch the friends and avoid the foes by knowing the who's, what's, and where's of them all as you track and find both!

Turtles Fees

Weeks 1,4,5,7,8	Week 3	Week 2,6
GVWA Members - \$315	GVWA Members - \$260	GVWA Members - \$330
Nonmembers - \$375	Nonmembers - \$320	Nonmembers - \$390

WACKY WEEK (Water, Arts, Creatures, Kooky stuff & You!)

Week 9: August 10-14 Week 10: August 17-21

All campers ages 6-12! Includes an off-site field trip each week. Work with your counselors to decide as a group what you want to do on site. Day one will include some team building and decision-making and the rest of the days will be decided by your group including ponding, creeking, hiking and so much more. This week is reserved for all ages with a maximum of 16 campers.

Fee for members: \$335 / week; non-members: \$395 / week

Hurons

Children ages 10 - 12; runs 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

My Side of the Mountain

Week 1: June 15-19

The lesson of 3's: You can go 3 hours without shelter (under strenuous conditions), 3 days without water, 3 weeks without food. But that's no way to survive! Learn to build a protective shelter, make fresh water, and find what is edible in the wild. And to add to the fun, make animal scat look-alike chocolates! This week's field trip will be to Warwick County Park and Saint Peter's Village as a reward for surviving the week!

River Runners

Week 2: June 22-26

Run the river as well as the lake! An all camp field trip to Marsh Creek State Park will get this water party started! Learn basic canoeing skills to prepare you for our Brandywine Creek canoe trip later in the week. Investigate the waters of Welkinweir by catching fish, tadpoles, frogs, and other creatures of our most precious resource: fresh water. The week will end with the all camp ECO Boat Race!

Art Attack!

Week 3: June 29-July 2 (4-day camp week; no camp on July 3rd)

There are lots of ways to think of art. Let's attack it head on! Think you've got talent? Think you don't? Who cares! The arts present themselves in all sorts of ways: we'll try being comics, creators, innovators, storytellers, singers, musicians, sculptors. End the week with a display of talents and "untalents," all inspired by or representing nature! Due to the short week, there is no field trip this week.

Creature Features

Week 4: July 6-10

Flora, fauna, yeah, we're gonna search and find them all! From the underground to the skies, you'll explore the mysteries and features of nature's flora and fauna. Use binoculars to see birds far away and make your own "microscope" to see small creatures up close. Create a bouquet of flowers, make leaf rubbings to identify species, and catch and draw critters of the pond, the woods, and the stream. Field trip this week will be to the Audubon Center.

Dare I?

Week 5: July 13-17

Take some dares that might cause scares, but camper, here's the thing. You must be brave if it's challenge you crave, so courage you must bring. Just kidding, but challenge yourself with team building, outdoor skills, fire-building, campfire cooking and so much more! Shoot arrows at our woodland tarps, make Native American hunting tools, and have a campfire building competition. Field trip to Colebrookdale Railroad tracks.

Herons (continued)

Drizzle and Drench

Week 6: July 20-24

Like a little water on a hot day? Like a lot of water on a hot day? Either way, this is the week to get drizzled on or get drenched! Water is the name of the game this week and includes a canoe lesson at Marsh Creek State Park and a kayak trip down the Schuylkill River. You'll test Beaver Run's water quality, remove invasive crayfish, play water games, and explore the wet and wild places at Welkinweir. This week, build and race paddle boats and then join in the all camp ECO boat race!

Earth Canvassers

Week 7: July 27-31

Let earth inspire your inner creativity! Make dream catchers with natural items, headbands by hammering flowers and leaves onto fabric, fish prints, bird feeders, nature weavings, painted rock ladybugs for tic-tac-toe, and so much more. Hike the world of Welkinweir, gather inspiration, and then create some magic! Take a field trip to Art Fusion to create something magical!

My Favorite Things

Week 8: August 3-7

Catch and capture the essence of your favorite things in nature! This week, you'll seek out the wonderful life that calls Welkinweir home. Chill under the "umbrella tree," gather your favorite flowers for a bouquet to bring home, watch a monarch go from egg to butterfly. Go fishing and ponding, hiking and hanging out, while you share your week with some of your favorite things. This week includes a trip to the Quiver Farm Project to visit the animals!

HERONS FEES

Weeks 1,4,5,7,8	Week 3	Weeks 2 & 6
GVWA Members - \$395	GVWA Members - \$350	GVWA Members - \$410
Nonmembers - \$455	Nonmembers - \$410	Nonmembers - \$470

WACKY WEEK (Water, Arts, Creatures, Kooky stuff & You!)

Week 9: August 10-14 Week 10: August 17-21

All campers ages 6-12! Includes an off-site field trip each week

Work with your counselors to decide as a group what you want to do on site. Day one will include some team building and decision-making and the rest of the days will be decided by your group including ponding, creeking, hiking and so much more. This week is reserved for all ages with a maximum of 16 campers.

Fee for members: \$335 / week; non-members: \$395 / week

Registration

Registration, forms, scholarships, and job application info are online at www.greenvalleys.org/summer-nature-day-camp

Details

Registration opens in February for **current** GVWA members; general registration opens in March. Weekly camp enrollment is limited. Registration remains open as long as spaces are available. We reserve the right to cancel any weeks that do not meet the 6 camper minimum. If cancellation is required a full refund will be issued.

Scholarships

The ECO Camp Scholarship Fund supports families who cannot financially afford to send their children to camp. Support this fund online or send a check to Green Valleys Watershed Association / 1368 Prizer Rd / Pottstown, PA 19465 / Attn: Summer Camp Scholarship Fund. To apply for a one week camp scholarship, complete an application available on our website, then email to camp@greenvalleys.org

Before & After Camp Care

Before-care begins as early as 8:00 a.m. (camp starts at 9).; after-care runs until 5:00 p.m. (camp ends at 3:00). We offer a separate registration for this and it must be paid in advance with 24 hours' notice for utilizing these services.

Before Care: Weekly \$60 Daily \$15 After Care: Weekly \$80 Daily \$20

Leader-in-Training & Counselor-in-Training Programs

Leader-in-Training is designed specifically for **13-year-olds**, focusing on general leadership and skill-building. Leadership training can be ascribed to all areas of life. This one-week training period covers the basics of leadership and teamwork, as well as the fundamental skills needed to work with campers (teaching games, running activities, dealing with campers). Training week is June 15 – 19, with 1 week of volunteering required. **Fee is \$125**

The **Counselor-in-Training (14- & 15-year-olds)** program goes beyond Leader-in-Training for more in-depth preparation for working with campers in the camp setting. This 2-week program includes leadership and skill-building (Week 1) alongside the LIT's. Week 2 for CITs focuses on advanced skills for working with campers, including fire building, safety, orienteering, geocaching, and canoeing. This week includes two canoe field trips. Training weeks are June 15-19 and June 22-26, with 2 weeks of volunteering required. **Fee is \$225**

During the camp volunteer week(s) LITs/CITs will assist Counselors/Assistant Counselors to run the camp program, help campers learn about the natural environment, native plants and animals, and how to be a caring steward of the Earth – all in an outdoor setting. LITs/CITs may lead a hike, a game, assist with set up or clean-up of an activity, or aid a camper who needs extra help or encouragement. CITs may also co-lead specialty programming learned during Week 2 of their training. Applications are available on our website and are due 5/15/26.

About Welkinweir ... the home of Green Valleys Watershed Association, this 224-acre permanently preserved property boasts forests, meadows, ponds, and streams open for exploration. Home to abundant wildlife, one can spot a family of beavers, a bald eagle or ospreys, and a variety of birds, at any time. It is an ideal setting for ECO Camp!