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April, 2014

## e-News

*Activities, advocacy alerts, project updates, and interesting tidbits*

### In This Issue

#### Advocacy Alert

Be a part of the collective voice for trails, greenways, open space, and livable communities

[Walkable, Bikeable Delaware](#)

#### Healthy Communities

Learn where, why and how we can change our communities so that it's easier to live a healthy lifestyle

[Recognition Program for Healthy Communities](#)

#### Historic Penn Farm

Just outside of Old New Castle, this 112 acre farm has been in continuous operation for nearly three centuries and has activities of new and old to enjoy (and fresh produce, too!)

[Visit the Penn Farm website](#)

#### WILMAPCO

WILMAPCO is the Metropolitan Planning Organization for New Castle County, Delaware and Cecil County, Maryland.

[See what's planned for your area](#)

[Dover-Kent MPO](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Dear Friend of Delaware Greenways,

A personal letter from the Managing Director of Delaware Greenways:

So many great and exciting things are happening this spring that I can hardly wait to tell you about them! The days are getting longer, the weather is getting warmer, the snow has finally melted, and we are hitting the ground running. Get ready to gear up for good times and good health, and get in step with Delaware Greenways as we celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with the 2014 See You Outside Challenge, new events at Historic Penn Farm, the launch of the Green Circle, and important opportunities to make your voice heard throughout the First State.

In 1989, a group of concerned citizens met to discuss what they could do to preserve a precious piece of open space on Wilmington's doorstep. 25 years later, this community-based effort has grown into Delaware Greenways, a statewide organization committed to cultivating healthy, sustainable communities throughout the First State. Every day, we are hard at work to ensure that you and future generations have access to outdoor recreation, walking and biking choices, healthy food sources, and an unparalleled quality of life that supports our economy, the health of our residents and workforce, and protects our environment.

Why do we do this? Because the difference we make is the difference between another day of the daily grind and the ability to connect with nature. The difference between being trapped behind the wheel of a car and walking or biking on a sidewalk or trail. The difference between having to feed your family processed food and having access to freshly grown produce. The difference between sitting on a couch watching TV and enjoying a concert in the park. The difference between being stressed and being well.

This is why we do what we do. We're in this with you; we want a better life for ourselves, our families, our communities, and for the generations to come. In this month's newsletter, you will read about exciting developments - years of hard work that are finally paying off, and new initiatives that are under way.

We can't do any of this without you. From our institutional partners to our individual members, we depend on you for our support and for our inspiration. Thank you for all you have done to get us to this point. We are impatient to do more. We are looking forward to taking this journey with you toward our vision of a healthy, vibrant, sustainable Delaware.

See You Outside!

David Hunt  
Managing Director  
Delaware Greenways

► DONATE NOW

## May 1 Is the Walkable Bikeable Delaware Summit



Delaware Greenways is partnering with Bike Delaware, Sussex Outdoors, the American Heart Association, and the Delaware Department of Transportation to sponsor the 2014 Walkable Bikeable Delaware Summit. Now in its 3

rd year, the 2014 summit will include presentations from Robert Burchfield, City Traffic Engineer of the Portland Bureau of Transportation and

Tracy Winfree, the Director of Public Works of Boulder, Colorado. Portland and Boulder are arguably two of most bikeable cities in the country. Burchfield and Winfree are coming to show us the *specific steps* they took to make bicycle use mainstream. We are already ranked #5 in the nation, and #1 east of the Mississippi (several years ago we were languishing in the 30s). Our ambition is to be the most walkable bikeable state in the country. On May 1, we will take an important step forward. Show your support and register [here](#) for this important event. There is strength in numbers; show that this matters to you. The event is free.

## Sign Up For See You Outside!



The 2014 See You Outside Challenge got off to a great start at the See You Outside Kickoff Party held at the Delaware Museum of Natural History on March 20. Many thanks to the Museum, to William Penn High School (who catered a delicious event), to Kalai King for the wonderful music, to our volunteers, and to everyone who attended the event and supported the See You Outside program. [Sign up now](#) for the See You Outside Challenge! It's free, and if you sign up and send in pictures, you will be

entered into a drawing for prizes at the end of the year. At the Kickoff Party, we gave away passes to Delaware State Parks, Delaware Nature Society, Delaware Art Museum, and the Firefly Music Festival, as well as other prizes provided by Delaware Greenways, New Castle County, and other See You Outside supporters. In addition to the 2014 Challenge, See You Outside lists hundreds of events and activities throughout the First State. We are constantly updating the site, including featured events of the week (listed every Monday), and will be adding tips on health & wellness, things to do, and the environment. [Click here](#) for more information!

## Another Opportunity to Win Firefly

## Passes!



If you weren't able to attend the See You Outside kickoff event on March 20 and wanted to win two 4-day passes to the Firefly Music Festival, don't despair. There will be one more opportunity - to find out more, you have to [sign up for the See You Outside Challenge!](#) more details will follow.

## Green Circle Open House at Delaware Greenways

Are you a member of the Green Circle? If so, please join us on Tuesday, April 15 from 5-7 p.m. at the Delaware Greenways offices for a special thank you. This will be an informal gathering; relax and unwind here on Rockland Road, enjoy some refreshments, meet other Green Circle members and take the opportunity to talk to the Board and staff about upcoming activities, events and initiatives. Not a member of the Green Circle? Members enjoy free State Park passes, and members-only invitations to Delaware Greenways special events. To find out more, click [here](#).

## Walking Feels Good

### Greenways and Preston's March for Energy holding 5k fundraiser on May 18

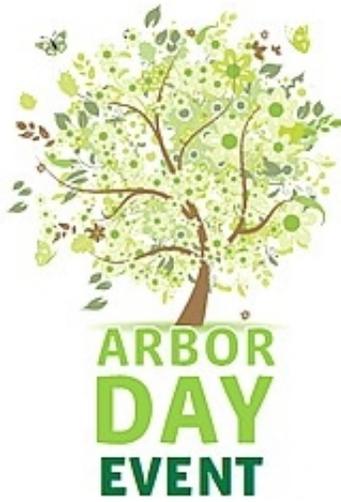


In hopes that the chill in the air that marked last year's event will be out of the question, Preston's March for Energy 5k and Family Fun Day will be May 18 from 9:00am to 1:00pm. The event is a fundraiser for Preston's March for Energy, a non-profit started by Deb Buenaga and her family, with a mission to promote awareness about special needs and the importance of physical exercise equipment and to provide adaptive bikes to children with special needs. Music,

information, giveaways, refreshments, a great crowd, beautiful surroundings, and a fantastic cause make this event a worthwhile way to spend a Sunday morning in May. Learn more about the work of Preston's March for Energy and to register for the 5k: [prestonsmarch.org](http://prestonsmarch.org)

## Celebrate Arbor Day at Historic Penn Farm!

On Friday, April 25, join us at Historic Penn Farm in New Castle to celebrate Arbor Day. Delaware Greenways is pairing up with the City of New Castle to host an Arbor Day celebration at Historic Penn Farm



on April 25<sup>th</sup> from 10am-2pm. The City of New Castle has recently been designated as a "Tree City" and is in the process of increasing their canopy cover and informing the public on the importance of trees in our community.

There will be tree plantings, children's activities, exhibits, farm tours and more! The event will be held rain or shine so come prepared to get dirty! Free admission and food will be available for purchase by U of D graduate, Leigh Ann Tona's, "I Don't Give a Fork!" food truck

## WILMAPCO Moves to Connect Wilmington to New Castle



On March 13, the Wilmington Area Planning Council voted to approve funding to complete the Wilmington-to-New Castle Greenway. When completed, there will be an off-road trail that will connect the Wilmington Riverfront to

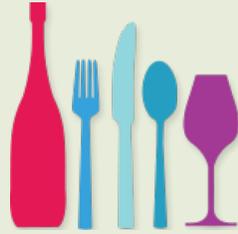
historic New Castle! Delaware Greenways has been at the forefront of the efforts to connect these two destinations since the 1990s. We are grateful to WILMAPCO, our supporters at [Bike Delaware](#) and [New Castle County](#), and to all of our members and partners who helped make this happen!

## Greenville Study to Kick Off May 8

Save the Date: Thursday, May 8, from 6:30-9:00 at A.I. DuPont High School in Greenville. Delaware Greenways, in conjunction with New Castle County and DelDOT, is conducting a public workshop to solicit public input into a plan designed to protect and conserve the Brandywine Valley National Scenic Byway and the Village of Greenville. Input provided by the public at this first public workshop will form the basis of the Plan and will enable planners to develop strategies and recommendations to address the issues brought forward by the public. The strategies and recommendations will be presented at subsequent public meetings. For more information, click [here](#).

**Delaware Greenways Is a Partner in the Mid-**

## Atlantic Wine + Food Festival!



## MIDATLANTIC WINE + FOOD FESTIVAL

Delaware Greenways is a proud partner of the Mid-Atlantic Wine + Food Festival. Two events will be held at Historic Penn Farm. On May 15, the Farm will host the [Celebrity Cruises Farm to Table Dinner](#) from 6:30-10:30 p.m. Unfortunately, the May 17 ["In the Kitchen with David" Wine + Dine Weekend Winemakers](#) Dinner is **Sold Out**. For more information about the Mid-Atlantic Wine + Food Festival, click [here](#).

## Sussex County Celebrates the Arrival of Spring!



If you're lucky, you'll find yourself in Sussex County in April and May. If you do, there are a variety of activities and events to enjoy! For example, on April 5, you can [Walk the Dunes](#) at Cape Henlopen State Park to learn about these beautiful and important natural resources. One week later, participate in the [Beach Ride & Walk](#), hosted by Southern Delaware Therapeutic

Riding. Rescheduled from its original March 29 date, the Ride & Walk will host participants on foot and horseback. Lewes will host the [Fifth Annual Tulip Festival](#) on the weekend of April 10-12, and the [46th Annual Great Delaware Kite Festival](#) on Friday, April 18. Bethany will be the starting point for the [25th Annual Ocean to Bay Bike Tour](#) on April 26, Dewey Beach will host the [3rd Annual Dewey Beach Arts Fest](#) on May 10, and you can enjoy the [Peace, Love & Horseshoe Crab Festival](#) in Milford on May 17. These are just a few of the many wonderful opportunities to explore Sussex County, from the Nanticoke to the Atlantic. For more ideas, click [here](#).

## Delaware Greenways in the News



Did we mention that it was our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year? Delaware Greenways was recently featured in an article on the topic covered by Delaware Public Media. To read the article, click [here](#).

## Delaware Greenways Selected to Participate in Delaware's First Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community



Saturday, September 13, will be the first Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community held in Delaware. Delaware Greenways is one of 17 organizations selected to participate in this historic event. Fittingly, the walk will be held in Bellevue State Park. Part of the route will use the Northern Delaware Greenway Trail, one of the signature achievements of Delaware Greenways over the past 25 years. Save two dates: September 13, when the walk will be held, and June 2, when online registration opens!

## Delaware's Bayshore Byway Gearing Up for a Weekend of Discovery!

DelDOT, DNREC, Delaware Greenways and the communities along the byway are planning a big event to celebrate Delaware's Bayshore Byway for this summer to celebrate its inauguration. The event will be over an entire weekend and involve the natural areas such as Woodland Beach, Bombay Hook and St Jones Reserve, historic and cultural areas like the Port Penn Interpretative Center and John Dickinson Plantation and the towns and hamlets along the Byway such as New Castle, Little Creek and Delaware City. It will be fun for the entire family for the entire family. Watch this space for information and updates.

## Celebrate Dover Days May 2-4!



You can claim Dover, Delaware, the Capital City of the First State, as your state capital May 2-4, 2014 during the 81st anniversary celebration of the Dover Days Festival!

the largest festival in Kent County, Dover Days drew nearly 50,000 people in 2013. The festival is a celebration of history, heritage, culture and the arts. The festival is a blend of traditions and modern attractions that brings people to Delaware from all over the Mid-Atlantic Region. Dover Days is one of Delaware's longest-running

events that celebrates First State history. The event was started in 1933 as a home and garden tour. To celebrate the 80th anniversary, a garden tour will be held on Sunday, May 5. It is a jam-packed weekend of fun for the whole family - from the Kids Zone to the classic car show and 350 artisans, crafters and food vendors, you'll find something for everyone! It is also part of the First State National Monument. For more information about the event, click [here](#).

## Enjoy Spring in New Castle County



New Castle County is a beautiful place to enjoy the spring weather, and there is no shortage of events and activities in the upcoming months. The Wilmington Trail Club will be hosting the [53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Brandywine Trail End-to-End Hike](#) on Saturday, April 12. Later in the month, there will be no shortage of opportunities to look for eggs, including the [Delaware Museum of Natural History's Egg-stravaganza](#). If you find yourself upstate the weekend of May 3-4, there is an embarrassment of riches. Among the outdoor offerings are [Creek Fest](#) at White Clay Creek in Newark, [NatureFest](#) at Hagley, [World Labyrinth Day](#) at the Delaware Art Museum, a [Wild Edibles](#) class at Mount Cuba, [Sleep Under the Stars](#) at Rockwood Park, the [Native Plant Sale](#) at Coverdale Farm, the [Venture Outdoors Fest](#) at Brandywine Creek State Park, and [Point to Point](#) at Winterthur. And in the following two weekends, mark your calendars for the [Wilmington Flower Market](#) May 8-10 and the [Wilmington Grand Prix](#) May 16-18. That's not all; for more ideas and resources, check out the See You Outside website by clicking [here](#).

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