

# Bergen County Zoological Park Monthly Newsletter

2 1 6 F O R E S T A V E N U E • P A R A M U S , N J 0 7 6 5 2  
2 0 1 - 6 3 4 - 3 1 0 0

## ZOO CAMP PROGRAM

**James J. Tedesco, III**  
**County Executive**

**Board of Chosen  
Freeholders**

**James Koth,**  
**Director of Parks**

**Marianne Vella**  
**Zoo Director**

Zoo Camp is a week long 1/2 day program that the Education Department at the Bergen County Zoo offers county residents and zoo members. It runs from 9am—1pm an children ages 5 to 15years old can apply. Zoo Camp runs from the end of June to the beginning of August. Campers are organized into four groups (depending on their age).

During their week at camp, children will to tour the zoo and learn about the animals environment, meet animals up close (in a classroom setting) and participate in activities.

The brochure and application is posted on both the Bergen County Zoo's official webpage

as well as Facebook/Twitter Applications are due back by March 15th. Once the deadline has passed, the children are selected via a lottery system

There are four groups in our program: Lambs, Hawks, Gators, Condors and Jr. Zookeepers. The camp runs Monday—Friday (9am—1pm). There is a fee of \$150 for the week which includes a zoo camp t-shirt.

If you are interested, please visit the Bergen County Zoo's official webpage or social media outlets for the brochure and application. For more information please contact [zoocamp@co.bergen.nj.us](mailto:zoocamp@co.bergen.nj.us) or call 201-634-3125/3124.



## F R I E N D S O F T H E B E R G E N C O U N T Y Z O O

The Friends of the Bergen County Zoo is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that is dedicated to providing financial support to the Bergen County Zoological Park for the welfare of its animals, educational programs and family-friendly facilities. It is the generous support of our sponsors, donors, members and zoo visitors that allow us to meet this mission. The Friends offer a variety of memberships for individuals and families. Please visit [www.communitypass.net](http://www.communitypass.net), choose "Friends of the Bergen County Zoo, NJ" (for Community or Organization) and continue through to either Create an Account or Existing Users can Log in. Visit us at [www.friendsofbergencountyzoos.org](http://www.friendsofbergencountyzoos.org) or like us on Facebook! The Friends look forward to seeing you at the Zoo!

**S P O T L I G H T   A N I M A L :   G R E A T E R   R H E A**

The Greater Rhea is the third largest bird in the world. These flightless birds are native to South America. Due to their large size and lack of a keel base is the reason that they do not fly.

A rhea's coloring is typically a soft gray/brown with white under the wings, Males have a black bib and collar at the base of their

neck and are slightly larger than the females.

A rhea's diet consists of grasses and plants as well as insects. the Rhea's at the zoo receive chicken pellets, lettuce, apples and oyster shells (provide calcium).

Rheas typically breed from September to December. The breeding male will display for the females by

fanning their feathers and escorting the females . A female lays anywhere from 10–20 eggs, which are then incubated by the male for 35–40 days.



**Greater Rhea on Exhibit  
Photo by Carmen Baca**

**S P E C I A L   E V E N T S**

The education department hosts several events throughout the calendar year. Look out for the official flyers on the Official webpage for the Bergen County Zoo as well as our Facebook and Twitter page.



**Bergen County Zoo**  
**2019 Education Special Event Calendar**

|              |                       |              |                         |
|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| January 12th | Save the Eagles Day   | May 4th      | Sheep Shearing*         |
| February 3rd | World Wetlands Day    | May 19th     | Endangered Species Day* |
| March 17th   | Frog Conservation Day | July 20th    | New World Monkey Day    |
| April 7th    | World Tapir Day       | August 17th  | Cotton-Top Tamarin Day  |
| April 27th   | Autism Awareness Day* | October 5th  | Farm Animals Day        |
| April 28th   | Party for the Planet* | November 2nd | National Bison Day      |

**Activities will take place between 11 AM and 2 PM. Activities may include: crafts, animal encounters, short programs, and exhibit chats. Events marked with an \*, have a special start and end time. Please see event flyers for specific details, as they become available.**



SPOTLIGHT EMPLOYEE: NANCY MCTAMANEY



Nancy McTamaneY with our San Clemente Goat  
Photo by Carmen Baca

When you tell some that you are an animal keeper at a zoo, they always say that it must be a dream job. While working with animals is rewarding, most people do not understand the physical side when working in a zoo. Dealing with the weather (be it a frigid winter day or a sweltering summer), shoveling animal pens, dealing with mosquitos and flies, sometimes the animals do not want to cooperate and scolding the public for feeding the animals potato chip bags. Despite all that, the keepers make the care of the animals their first priority. One such person is Nancy McTamaneY.

Nancy came to the Bergen County Zoo in 2007. She had previously worked at the Trailside Museums & Zoo facility in

Bear Mt, New York as a senior keeper. There Ms. McTamaneY worked with native wildlife and realized this is the career that she wanted to be in. "I've always loved animals since I was a child. It started with turtles and cats and then made its way to larger and exotic animals. I knew this is what I wanted my career to be".

Since coming to the Bergen County Zoo, Nancy dove right into ways she could better take care of the animal collection. Making diets, maintenance of the exhibits, grooming and enrichment, Nancy McTamaneY did it all with dedication and a genuine love for the animals at the zoo.

After some time, Nancy found her niche working within the Animal Welfare Committee. This particular committee looks out for the animal's physical, mental and emotional states over a period of time and ensures that the scales go in the right direction for the animals.

Mc. McTamaneY, along with her fellow committee members, meet once a month to determine that the animals are healthy, well-nourished, safe and able to develop appropriately. In the event that one of these criteria is not met, Ms. McTamaneY proceeds to follow already established protocols to make sure that

the infraction(s) are corrected as soon as possible.

Ever the go-getter, when she found that an animal exhibit needed some TLC, Nancy McTamaneY's would use her maintenance skills to fix or repair the exhibit. Rather than risking the possibility that an animal could injury themselves, Mc. McTamaneY will make sure that the issues are taken care of as soon as possible.

When asked what is the one thing that she would want people to know about her role as an animal keeper, Nancy responded with "I feel very blessed to share my world with such magnificent and beautiful creatures". The Bergen County Zoo is lucky and honored to have her as part of the animal keeper staff.



Nancy McTamaneY with our Sardinian Donkeys  
Photo by Carmen Baca

SPRING TIME AT THE BERGEN COUNTY ZOO

Join us on Saturday, April 13th (11am–3pm) as the Bergen County Zoo celebrates the coming of Spring. This will be a free event where the public can come and participate in crafts and activities, animal story time with live animals and taking pictures with our costumed characters.

Refreshments will be offered.

**BERGEN NEW JERSEY**  
*County*

Bergen County Executive  
**James J. Tedesco III**  
and the  
Board of Chosen Freeholders  
Cordially invite you to

**SPRING HAS SPRUNG**  
AT THE  
**BERGEN COUNTY ZOO**

Free Event  
Enjoy Crafts and Activities to Celebrate Spring  
Animal Story Time with Live Animals



Take Pictures  
with  
**Costumed Characters**  
Refreshments



Sponsored by  
The Friends of the Bergen County

**SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2019**  
**11:00-3PM**  
Bergen County Administration Building  
One Bergen County Plaza  
Hackensack, NJ 07601



James J. Tedesco III  
Bergen County Executive  
Board of Chosen Freeholders

Germania M. Ortiz, Chairwoman • Mary J. Amosio, Vice Chairwoman • Dr. Juan M. Yoon, Chair Pro Tempore  
David L. Goss • Thomas J. Sullivan • Steven A. Tardiff • Tracy Silva-Gar

## WAYS TO SUPPORT THE ZOO

There are numerous ways to support the Bergen County Zoo:

- Consider becoming a zoo member
- Sponsor an Animal
- Enroll in our docent/volunteer program
- Purchase Animal Art

Information on all of these programs is available at the Zoo, our website or by calling 201-634-3100 ext. 3110



**Bergen County Zoological Park**  
**216 Forest Avenue**  
**Paramus, NJ 07652**  
**201-634-3100**

Bergen County Zoological Park



[www.co.bergen.nj.us/bcparks](http://www.co.bergen.nj.us/bcparks)

Like us on



Follow us on



## ASSOCIATION OF ZOOS & AQUARIUMS

The Bergen County Zoo is proud to be an AZA Accredited Zoo.

The Association of Zoos & Aquariums provides its members with the services, high standards, best practices, and program coordination to be leaders in animal welfare, public engagement, and the conservation of species.

### Reminders:

Bergen County Residents must provide proof of residency to receive the discounted rate. Forms of proof are: Driver's License, Utility bill to the residence, Bergen County issued ID Card.

Zoo Members must show their membership card to enter the zoo for free.

**James J. Tedesco, III**

**County Executive**

**Board of Chosen Freeholders**