



THE PRESERVATION PRESS

VISIT THE NATURE PRESERVE

Directions to the Preserve:

The Clyde Shepherd Nature Preserve is a 28-acre wildlife sanctuary with the entrance located on Pine Bluff Drive in Decatur. Take Medlock Road to Medlock School and turn right onto Wood Trail Lane. Continue past the stop sign at Harrington Drive. The entrance to the Preserve is one block straight ahead.

a publication of



**Clyde Shepherd
NATURE PRESERVE**

managed by South Peachtree
Creek Nature Preserve, Inc.

Visit our website: cshpherdpreserve.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Spring is just around the corner, but as I write this message on March 1, we're having our first real snowfall in about three years.

The Clyde Shepherd Nature Preserve is beautiful in any season, but unusual weather such as unexpected snow often captures the special magic of this 28-acre wildlife sanctuary. The pond is full of water again, and migrating birds have been enjoying a stop-over. With the new photo blind nearby, constructed as an Eagle Scout project by Chris Broecker, visitors can use the small windows in the blind for some extended wildlife watching on the Beaver Pond and wetlands.

This spring, there will be some weekend programs including a Breakfast with the Birds program on April 11, and Chris Beck will lead a Reptile and Amphibian program on Saturday, May 2. Watch for news of other programs we hope to schedule later in the year.

Our monthly workdays are also a wonderful opportunity to meet your neighbors, make new friends, and help improve both your community and the environment. We're planning a big workday, partnering with EarthShare of Georgia for the Corporate Green Day Challenge on Saturday, April 18, from 9-12. We hope you will join us.

CSNP is a volunteer-run 501(c)(3) organization that depends on community support both in time and dollars. Please join us by contributing a few hours of your time to help preserve this beautiful neighborhood treasure, or through a tax-deductible donation.

Thank you!
Madeline Reamy President
Clyde Shepherd Nature Preserve

BREAKFAST WITH THE BIRDS

Saturday, April 11, 2009; 8:00 a.m.; Reservations Required

Lisa Hurt will again lead a field trip at CSNP to see resident and spring migratory birds. A light breakfast of juice, coffee, and bagels will be provided. This has always been a popular program and is limited to 12 participants, so please call early to register. The cost is \$5 which you can pay on the day of the event. Bring binoculars and wear hiking boots. Call 404-580-3917 or e-mail Dave Butler at dabutler700@comcast.net to register.

Dave Butler

BOY SCOUT BUILDS PHOTO BLIND FOR EAGLE SERVICE PROJECT

At the end of 2008, Boy Scout Christopher Broecker earned the rank of Eagle Scout by completing his Eagle Service Project of building a photo blind on the east side of the Beaver Pond. The blind complements the first photo blind constructed on the west side of the pond near the beaver lodge. Christopher and a crew of scouts and parents built the entire structure and boardwalk leading to it over a two-day period in December. Final touches were added during the CSNP National Day of Service on January 19.

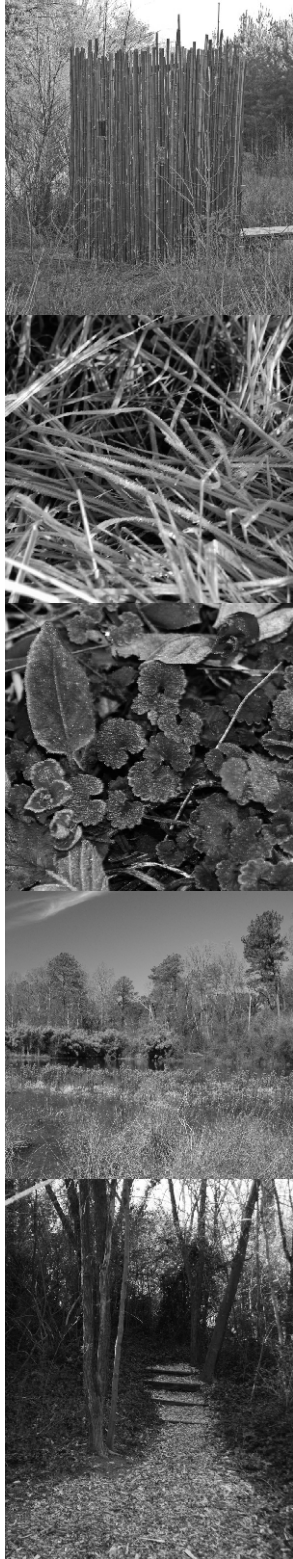
Bamboo from the preserve was used in the construction and adds an interesting architectural touch to the design. Two viewing ports were built into the wall looking toward the pond and a seat was added for those patient photographers waiting for that perfect shot.

The recent snow added a new dimension to the beauty of the nature preserve and the photo of the blind captures some of that beauty. We'll post other snow pictures on the CSNP web site.

Congratulations, Christopher, for a job well done — another example of CSNP's collaboration with scouts and other groups to make our nature preserve a more enjoyable place to visit.



Photo by Dave Butler



Photographs by Hank Ohme

Dave Butler

CSNP VOLUNTEER WORKDAYS SPRING-FALL 2009

Help mulch trails, remove invasive plants such as kudzu, privet and ivy; plant native trees and flowers; and make new friends. Volunteers are always needed to assist with our monthly workdays and to help supervise volunteer projects. Bring water, gloves and extra tools, as available. Training is provided. For more information, contact Elizabeth Fitch, CSNP volunteer coordinator, at csnp.volunteers@gmail.com.

- Sunday, April 5, 9-12
- Saturday, May 2, 9-12
- Sunday, June 7, 9-12
- Saturday, July 11, 9-12
- Sunday, August 2, 9-12
- Saturday, September 12, 9-12
- Saturday, October 5, 9-12, Hands On Atlanta Day
- Saturday, November 7, 9-12, Harvest Festival preparations
- Sunday, December 6, 1-4

photos by Elizabeth Fitch



On Martin Luther King Jr. Day (January 19), the Clyde Shepherd Nature Preserve held a workday with volunteers from USAService, an initiative connected to the Presidential Inauguration.

An amazing 79 volunteers arrived and assisted with trail mulching, repairing the trellis behind the Native Plant Garden, removal of invasive plants and completion of the photography blind project designed by Eagle Scout candidate Christopher Broecker.

By the end of the workday, despite the cold, the mulch pile was gone and tremendous progress had been made in removing recent privet growth and ivy from the trees.

Elizabeth Fitch

CSNP SPRING PROGRAMS

Saturday, April 11 Breakfast with the Birds. \$5 donation requested. Contact Dave Butler at dabutler@co.dekalb.ga.us or 404-580-3917 for more information

Saturday, May 2 Discovering Herps - Native Reptiles and Amphibians.

This will take place from 12-1 after the morning work session. Please bring a bag lunch; drinks will be provided. Donations Requested: \$5 for ages 12 and older / \$3 for ages 4-11. Contact Chris Beck, PhD at cbeck@biology.emory.edu for more information.



photo by Hank Ohme

CALLING ALL "HERP" LOVERS

Is that a lizard or a salamander under that log? What kind of frog is calling at dusk? If you're curious about the amphibians and reptiles that live in the Clyde Shepherd Nature Preserve, come join us on a herp tour. As we walk through the preserve, we'll search for and talk about the herps that make it their home.

You're perhaps wondering what a herp is? Well, herpetology is the branch of zoology that studies amphibians and reptiles, and biologists refer to them as herps. The two most commonly known groups of amphibians are frogs and toads, and newts and salamanders. Reptiles include crocodiles and alligators, lizards, snakes, turtles and tortoises.

Program Details:

Saturday, May 2: Discovering Herps — Native Reptiles and Amphibians.

This will take place from 12-1 after the morning work session. Please bring a bag lunch; drinks will be provided. Donations Requested: \$5 for ages 12 and older / \$3 for ages 4-11. Contact Chris Beck, PhD at cbeck@biology.emory.edu for more information. For reservations, contact information@cshepherdpreserve.org.

Chris Beck

For reservations, contact: information@cshepherdpreserve.org

Sponsorships

We invite your business or organization to sponsor events in the future. For more information call 678-951-0105, email information@cshepherdpreserve.org, or visit our web site at <http://www.cshepherdpreserve.org>.



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Thanks for your support!

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404-370-1175

SUPPORTER APPLICATION

Application Supporter

If you would like to become a supporter or if you already are a supporting member of the Clyde Shepherd Preserve, please consider a tax deductible donation. We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and donations are used directly for maintenance and improvements in the preserve. We receive no financial assistance from DeKalb County and depend on our neighbors, local businesses, and grants for our funding. Please mail this application with your donation to:

Clyde Shepherd Nature Preserve
c/o South Peachtree Creek Nature Preserve, Inc.
P.O. Box 33247
Decatur, GA 30033

Name _____
Address _____
E-mail _____ Phone _____
Contribution: \$100 _____ \$50 _____ \$10 _____ Other _____

Would you be interested in volunteering for workdays and special events? Yes ___ No ___
Would you like to receive the newsletter only in your email box? Yes ___ No ___