

2017 MAPLE SUGARING SEASON

As winter arrives, the Meesing Sugarbush sits quiet and empty. It won't be long, however, until the EE staff heads to the Sugarbush to begin the Maple Sugaring Season.



The 2016 Maple Season started off much warmer than the past two years and we had good sap flows into early March. The weather warmed even more and we produced our last syrup on March 11, three weeks earlier than 2015. We still managed to make 29 gallons of syrup in the shorter season. On our public day we had 318 people visit us in the Sugarbush and enjoy the pancakes and fresh maple syrup.

We hope you can make plans to join us this season! Our 40th Public Maple Sugaring Day will be held Saturday, March 4, 2017, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. The day will feature a tour of the Sugarbush including stops to learn about Native American and early pioneer methods of making maple syrup, our evaporator process and methods of identifying and tapping a maple tree. After the tour, everyone will get a chance to taste some of our syrup on freshly made pancakes. Cost: \$6/adult and \$4/children under 12; **all members of the EE Center and all tree sponsors attend free of charge.**

We'll be sponsoring a **special day for scout groups on Saturday, March 11, 2017.** Programs can be scheduled between 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. and are open to any level of scouts and their families. Cost: \$6/adult, \$4/scouts and children under 12 and includes our syrup on freshly made pancakes. **Pre-registration is required by Wednesday, March 7, 2017.**

Dates set for group programs in the Sugarbush are Monday, February 27 through Friday, March 10. All groups interested in scheduling a tour should call the Center to set aside a time block. Each program takes 1 ½ to 2 hours and includes learning about maple sugaring from the earliest methods used by Native Americans to present day collection/evaporation techniques. The group will also tap a maple tree and take home a sample of sweet maple syrup. Cost: \$4/participant, spaces fill up fast, so please register early. The Sugarbush is located 5.5 miles north of Marshalls Creek on Creek Rd. For more information call (570)629-3061, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Sponsor a Maple Tree

In 2016 over one hundred different groups, families or individuals sponsored trees in our Sugarbush. These sponsorships raised over \$2,000 which was used to help pay the expenses for our group tours of the Sugarbush. We are hoping that in 2017 even more people will help us by sponsoring a tree. We tap around 240 trees each year, so there are plenty available.

For \$25/tree each sponsor receives 1 pint of our fresh maple syrup, a handsome certificate, free admission to our Public Day Program on Saturday, March 4, 2017, for up to four people and a map showing the location of your tree in our Sugarbush. Don't miss this opportunity to become involved with one of our most popular programs. Call the office or complete and return the Sponsor Form below by Friday, February 24, 2017 to become a sponsor. A tree sponsorship also makes a great gift!



Checks should be made payable to:
Monroe County Conservation District
(M.C.C.D.)

Your Name _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____

Phone # _____

If Gift, Recipient's Name _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____

Phone _____

For gift, please check one: Send letter/certificate to: Me or Gift Recipient

How many trees would you like to sponsor? ____ (\$25 per tree)

Please return to: **Monroe County Conservation District**
8050 Running Valley Road
Stroudsburg, PA 18360

Each year around 240 maple trees are tapped in Meesing's Sugarbush. Become part of our sugaring program by sponsoring a maple tree this year!