

2019 MAPLE SUGARING SEASON

As fall approaches with winter soon to follow, the Meesing Sugarbush sits quiet and empty. It won't be long, however, until the EE staff heads to the Sugarbush to begin the 2019 Maple Sugaring Season.



The 2018 Maple Sugaring Season was interrupted by a "blizzard with strong winds" but overall proved to be a very successful season. We tapped trees on February 13th and the sap ran consistently until March 29th. Due to that continuous run of sap we were able to produce 40 gallons of quality pure maple syrup. Our annual public day had to be rescheduled but the 311 people that visited us that day enjoyed fresh pancakes with our syrup.

We hope you can make plans to join us this season! Our 42nd Public Maple Sugaring Day will be held Saturday, March 2, 2019, from 10am - 3pm. 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 9, 2019.** Programs can be scheduled between 9am - 2pm 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 6, 2019.**

Dates set for group programs in the Sugarbush are Monday, February 25 through Friday, March 8. 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 8am to 4:30pm.

Sponsor a Maple Tree

In 2018, over 125 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 2019 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 one pint of our fresh maple syrup, a handsome certificate, free admission to our Public Day Program on Saturday, March 2, 2019, 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 22, 2019 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!