

2021 MAPLE SUGARING SEASON

As fall approaches with winter soon to follow, the Meesing Sugar bush sits quiet and empty. It won't be long, however, until the EE staff heads to the Sugarbush to begin the 2021 Maple Sugaring Season.



The 2020 Maple Sugaring Season was cut a little short due to Covid-19 but we were still able to produce over 30 gallons of sweet syrup. We started tapping trees on Feb. 10 and had a consistent run of sap up until the 10th of March when the warming weather stopped the flow. On our annual public day the 456 people that visited us that day enjoyed fresh pancakes with our syrup.

We hope you can make plans to join us this season! This will be our 44th year but due to Covid-19 it will be a little different. We will be limiting the number of people on site and following all Covid-19 safety protocols including masks at all times. We will require registration for visitors on one of three Saturdays in March the 6th, 13, and the 20th, 2021. Each day will feature a tour of the Sugar bush 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. Cost: \$6/ adult and \$4/children under 12; **all members of the EE Center and all tree sponsors attend free of charge.**

Scout Groups will be allowed to register for any one of the three Saturdays. **Registration is required for any of the programs no later than the Thursday before the program.**

Dates set for group programs in the Sugarbush are Monday, February 28 through Friday, March 12. 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 2020, over 190 different groups, families or individuals sponsored trees in our Sugarbush. These sponsorships raised over \$4,500.00 which was used to help pay the expenses for our group tours of the Sugarbush. We are hoping that in 2021 even more people will help us by sponsoring a tree. We tap around 250 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 one of our Public Day Programs on Saturday, March 6, 13, or 20, 2021, 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 26, 2021 to become a sponsor. A tree sponsorship also makes a great gift!



Maple Tree Sponsor Form



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