

Saturday, October 18, 2014

Everyone is welcome to join us at the Blackbird Creek Fall Festival! It is a celebration that started in 2007 and features traditional crafts and demonstrations, hands-on learning, lively music, kids activities, and lots of fun along the beautiful Blackbird Creek! Best of it all, it's FREE! So, bring a chair or blanket and spend the day with us - rain or shine!

Planning to attend the festival?

Great idea! We make it happen rain or shine! And being free, the festival is a great bargain!

Blackbird Creek Reserve
801 Blackbird Landing Road
Townsend, DE 19734

Directions can be found [here](#).

Calling artisans and informational exhibitors!

Join us at the Blackbird Creek Fall Festival! This is a wonderful opportunity to join in the fun and create a fantastic community event! If you are interested in vending your own artisan work, showing an educational display, or selling food, please fill out the registration forms to participate at this fun day with us. Interested demonstrators and sponsors please contact Kelly Valencik directly at 302-739-6377. All craft work must be original—conceived, designed, and executed by the exhibiting artist. Registration is FREE for informational exhibitors!

Registration deadline is September 26, 2014. Please [click here](#) to register online. Or download the [mailable form](#).

On stage

Bring a chair or blanket and be prepared to spend the day - we have a full schedule of great music and performances!

- [Crabmeat Thompson](#)! Crabmeat Thompson has performed from Delaware to Montana and Key West, and from Toronto to Madrid; but he always returns to his native Delaware. In fact he penned "Small Wonder" for the state's tourism department, and it played regularly on WSTW and was even considered as an "official" state song. The Delaware Arts Council has twice awarded Thompson Fellowships for his folk music, and his original recordings range from sensitive to "barroom" to children's music and even some jazz and World creations.

- [Em McKeever](#)! Em McKeever, self-described "classical guitarist gone haywire," melds her love of wordcraft with musical pizzazz. She is a Newark-based singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist, often writing for banjo, dulcimer, tin whistle, and any other instrument that crosses her path. Her songs vary in sentiment and topic - stinkbugs and coffee play a comedic counterpart to her more emotive compositions.

Demonstrations

Check back for the list of demonstrations for 2014!

2013 demonstrations included:

- Dick "Quiet Thunder" Gilbert, Native American demonstration
- John Dickinson Plantation
- For Woodness Sake, spring pole lathe
- Baronage Farm, blacksmith, pottery demonstrations

What can you do?

- Explore the informational booths and displays
- **Free** Face Painting
- Check out unique wares from local artisans and vendors
- Try a canoe or kayak, learn to cast a fishing line, or make a craft at our Thank You Delaware Bay booths
- Guided habitat hike through the trails of the Blackbird Creek Reserve
- Haymaze
- Tractor-pulled hayrides through the Blackbird Creek Reserve
- Kids crafts celebrating the outdoors and autumn
- Take part in an Estuary scavenger hunt
- Visit artisans and vendors
- Bird watch
- Run and play in the great outdoors!

What's to eat?

The Blackbird Creek Fall Festival will offer a variety of lunch and snack items for sale. You can always bring a picnic, too!

Event mission statement

Blackbird Creek Fall Festival fosters the stewardship of the Delaware Bayshore by celebrating the richness of estuaries and Delaware's cultural traditions at our beautiful scenic site at the Delaware National Estuarine Research Reserve.