

Burlington County Times

Posted: Thursday, April 23, 2015 12:00 am

By Mariel Carbone, Staff Writer

A day to celebrate our leafy friends



Nancy Rokos

The earth has lungs too; they're called trees.

The Rancocas Nature Center will hold its second annual Arbor Day Festival on Sunday from noon to 4 p.m.

A free event, the Arbor Day Festival will celebrate how trees benefit our environment. The holiday, which is celebrated all over the world, is generally recognized in the United States the last Friday of April; however, different states often celebrate at times that better coincide with the best tree planting weather in that area.

In recognition, guests will enjoy tree planting, nature hikes, demonstrations, children's activities, exhibits, orienteering and more. The festival is appropriate for all ages.

Prizes will also be given out during the festival for the Children's Poster Contest. The contest was open to all children in the county in grades K through 8 and submissions were due on April 16. This year's theme was "The Importance of Trees."

For more information on the festival, visit rancocasnaturecenter.org or call 609-261-2495. The nature center is located at 794 Rancocas Road, Westampton.

The Rancocas Nature Center features three miles of hiking trails and is located inside of Rancocas State Park. It has provided environmental education to students, children, scouts, senior citizens and more since 1977.

Mariel Carbone: 609-871-8055; mcarbone@calkins.com; Twitter: @Mariel_BCT