

# Nature Niche

*Nature By The Yard — Fostering a Natural Sense of Wonder*

Spring, 2004

Volume 1, Issue 1

## Calendar of Events

Following is a list of events Nature By The Yard is scheduled to conduct. Please call the hosting organization to get more information or to register.

Tuesday, March 23

Tiny Tot Walk 18-36 months with adult  
Buttinger Nature Center (609) 737-7592

Saturday, April 3

10-11am Natural Egg Dyeing  
Bowmans's Hill Wildflower Preserve (215) 862-2924 Families

2-4 Natural Egg Dyeing  
Montgomery Center for the Arts. Families (609) 921-3272

Wednesday, April 21

Tiny Tot Walk 18-36 months with an adult.  
Buttinger Nature Center (609) 737-7592

Saturday, April 24

Earth Day Celebration  
Montgomery Center for the Arts. 2-4pm (609) 921-3272

Sun. May 2. 1:30-

3:30pm. Wings and

(continued)

## Welcome To Our Premiere Issue

Welcome to the first edition of **Nature Niche**, a quarterly newsletter written and published by Pam Newitt of Nature By The Yard. The purpose of **Nature Niche** is three fold. First, is to offer suggestions and information on how to comfortably live with the flora and fauna of this area. Second, to provide you with interesting natural history

relating to a feature plant or animal. Third, is to tell you about some of the public programs Nature By The Yard is conducting either alone or in conjunction with another facility; and invite you to join us.

Each issue will contain two articles. One will be practical advice on living in an urban

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## Critter-Proofing Your Home

**MOVE IN CONDITION:** Great location in lovely suburban USA. All of the amenities you need to keep your growing family safe. This property includes an uncapped chimney that won't be used for at least 7 months, with easy access via overhanging tree limbs. This cozy home comes with decorative shutters that don't move and a great firewood stack, perfect for excavating. Site also offers an attic with private entrance you make through the eaves. Comes with all the insulation you need to make a nest your neighbors will envy. All this and much more can be yours, but don't delay. This prime site won't last.

This may sound ludicrous, but to an

animal looking for a place to nest, it is perfect. So don't put your home on the animal real estate listings. It is much easier to prevent an animal from sharing your home than having to evict one. This is especially true once babies are involved. Here are some suggestions you can do to critter-proof your home.

Put a chimney cap on your chimney to prevent raccoons and other animals from using it when you are not.

Trim tree limbs so they don't hang over the roof.

Repair any cracked, broken or rotting boards around your home.

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## Nature By The Yard

Calendar continued

Wildflowers. Washington Crossing Interpretive Center (609) 737-0609

Tuesday May 4 7:30-9pm  
Full Moon Walk. Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve (215) 862-2924

Sat. June 5 8-9:30pm  
Full Moon Walk Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve (215) 862-2924

Nature Explorations Camp  
July 19-23 Kids entering 2-4<sup>th</sup> grade. 9am-12 noon  
Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve (215) 862-2924

Sat. July 31 8-9:30pm  
Full Moon Walk Bowman's Hill Wildflower Preserve (215) 862-2924

### ***We're on the Web***

*See us at:*

[www.naturebytheyard.com](http://www.naturebytheyard.com)

## ***Premiere Issue continued***

environment and all of the gifts, surprises and challenges that go with sharing that environment with wildlife. The other article will feature a particular plant or animal of interest.

If you do not want to receive this newsletter or if any of the mailing information I have is incorrect, please contact me at <pam@naturebytheyard.com>

or at (609) 610-6292. I will make the necessary changes or remove you from my distribution list. You can also contact me at the above to suggest a topic for a feature article or if you have a specific question. If you know of anyone who may be interested in receiving **Nature Niche**, please feel free to share the contact information. I hope you enjoy your first issue.

## ***Critter-proofing continued***

Put 1/4" hardware cloth over heat, attic and dryer vents.

Raise firewood stacks at least 10" off the ground.

By taking some simple precautions, you

can enjoy viewing wildlife from the comfort of your home without sharing your living space with unwanted guests.

## ***About Our Organization...***

Nature By The Yard was started in January, 2001. We deliver fun, hands-on, educational programs to schools, scouts, camps, libraries, birthday parties, garden clubs, nature centers, wildflower preserves or any organized

group. We also provided in-service trainings for teachers on using the outdoors as a classroom as well as offer advice and expertise on designing school yard habitats. For details on our services visit [www.naturebytheyard.com](http://www.naturebytheyard.com)

