

At the Skaneateles Library: Get Outdoors with Help from the Library

This month we are happy to see the sunshine again and are excited to be unveiling some new things that fit perfectly with our nicer weather!

We are happy to announce that the library now has two New York State Empire Passes! An Empire Pass provides unlimited day-use to New York State Parks. All you have to do is present the pass upon entry into a park and you won't have to pay the car entry fee. The pass allows entry for as many people as your vehicle holds and can be used at New York State Parks like Green Lakes State Park in Fayetteville, Clark Reservation State Park in Jamesville and Fillmore Glen State Park in Moravia! There are 180 state parks in New York, offering plenty of opportunities to explore nature and experience something new.

The library's passes can be borrowed for one week at a time and are stored in a handy rearview mirror hanger so you can keep the pass displayed while you are in the park. Before you start your outdoor adventures, don't forget to check out some of our other materials like wildlife and plant identification guides or Discovery Backpacks – the bird watching and citizen science backpacks are perfect to bring out to a park! Please note that Empire Passes do not waive fees for camping, golf, museums, historic sites or special events.

In keeping with the nature theme, we have also started a Seed Exchange at the library. A Seed Exchange is a box where gardeners can swap their extra seeds for different varieties. These can be seeds that have been properly saved from last year or just extra new seeds that were purchased. We have sections for flowers, vegetables and herbs.

It's easy to use the Seed Exchange – just take the seeds you want and leave some of your own extra seeds in the Seed Exchange box. We also ask that participants label seeds that they contribute or keep them in the original packaging to avoid confusion. If you need some inspiration for your garden this year, we're hosting several Master Gardener lectures in the coming months. We hope you see you there!

Master Gardener Talk: Raised Bed Gardening, Square Foot Gardening and Companion Planting

Thursday, May 24th at 6:30 PM

Learn from Cornell Cooperative Master Gardener Joy Pople how to plan and get the most from your small space gardens. Topics will include gardening in raised beds, using the square foot gardening technique and companion planting. Registration required.

Master Gardener Talk: Growing Tomatoes - Seed to Table

Thursday, June 21st at 6:30 PM

Learn from Cornell Cooperative Master Gardener Pat Jokaty how to grow the best tomatoes! Registration required.

Master Gardener Talk: Winterizing Your Garden

Thursday, August 13th at 6:30 PM

Learn from Cornell Cooperative Master Gardener Joy Pople how to prepare your garden, plants and tools for the winter ahead! Registration required.

###