



Spring Update to Supporters

Thank you to our friends, supporters, and program participants, who have made it possible for CEED to continue to develop new programs. Here's an update as we continue to grow in 2021 and help connect people to the healing nature of our Long Island home.

Program Updates- All Ages

Friday 15 at 2:15 – Ranger Eric and guest hosts offer 15 minutes of interesting nature on Friday afternoons on Instagram Live. Subjects include how to build a bat box, the magic of feathers, and how to identify Long Island's frogs by their songs. We now have a growing library of nature knowledge on our website, [Facebook page](#), [Instagram](#), and [YouTube channel](#).

Tails and Tales – Each year, a nationwide network of town and community libraries focuses on a theme. This year it's **Tails and Tales**, stories about animals. Right up our alley! Our **Tail and Tales** will be told by local Native Americans, sharing stories handed down through generations.

Nature Programs for Adults – As soon as the weather allows, we'll restart outdoor yoga. We are scheduling healing nature walks regularly. We will have additional nights of **Owl Prowl and Sky Gazing**, which was so popular in November. We are working on a **Summer Movie Night/Science Talk**, a **Summer Solstice Festival**, and more.

Conservation Efforts - We're so grateful to volunteers who've been helping Ranger Eric clear invasive plants in our woodlands to prevent burning bush, bittersweet, tree of heaven and others from reducing diversity. Once we clear these out, we hope to create interactive stations on our north trail, so watch for updates. **And please, come and check out our trails!**

We also had a great day cleaning the watershed as **Creek Defenders** in collaboration with **Save the Great South Bay**.

Program Updates- Children

Nature of Science – We created this innovative program of hands-on science and nature workshops for home-school and remote-school families. The program meets once a week for two hours for two age groups, grades 1-3 and grades 4-6. We have currently held four successful sessions, with **Session Five** beginning soon.

Spring Farm & Nature Experience – We offered a spring school vacation version of our successful Summer Nature Experience program. The program booked solid, and had a successful launch on March 29, despite near gale force winds that added a little windy excitement to the outdoor fun. This program also marks the beginning of CEED's collaboration with Mama Farm, our organic next-door neighbor. We had so much fun and the kids loved it!

"I was worried my 10year old would complain about all the outdoor time. After the first day he gave it an 8 out of 10. Every day after that, he gave it a whopping 10 out of 10. If you like your kids dirty, happy, tired and proud, then this is the camp for you." Parent of a child in our spring program.

Return to In-School Programs – We began doing in-school programs again in March. We expect that to continue, and we hope that next fall, we will once again be offering nature and biology programming in dozens of local schools to hundreds of students.

Summer Farm & Nature Experience – We are already planning our summer nature experience program, and enrollments have begun – earlier than in any previous year! We will be offering a full five weeks this year, two of which will be farm and nature weeks with our next door neighbor, **Mama Farm**. If you know anyone who might be interested in enrolling their children, please have them go to ceedli.org/summerfne as soon as possible.

Aishling Forest School – CEED is always open to collaboration and our first and most successful partnership has been with the **Aishling Forest School**, an outdoor education and adventure program for toddlers/preschoolers and their parents. Aishling continues to expand their programming at CEED and we're so excited for their progress.

Washington Lodge Update

We will soon do some work to repair roof leaks, and install a fire safety system. This will allow us to move forward to open the **Great Hall West**. This large first floor room will give us more options to offer programs, school field trips and community meetings. We are grateful for assistance we have received from the Town of Brookhaven for work already done at the Lodge. If you can help with these plans as a donor or volunteer, please contact us at info@ceedli.org.

Thanks to a New York State grant, we will also be replacing windows on the first floor to resemble the original windows of a second empire home. We are honored to have **Jennifer Lucas** with Beach Oak Designs (beachoakdesigns.com) painting a beautiful outdoor mural, and grateful to **Charlie Turner**, who is building window boxes to hang from our new windows.

Please Continue Your Support!

We always welcome volunteers, financial support, and participation in our programs. We're so grateful for all our friends who are helping to make this dream come true! **Be sure to follow us on Facebook and Instagram to keep up on our latest programs, or subscribe to our email list at ceedli.org/subscribe.**

Sally Wellinger, Executive Director, sally@ceedli.org