



SUMMER FUN

Have you made your summer plans to get outside and have some fun? Included a visit to Steep Rock preserves in your plans? Our preserves and programs offer a bit of everything, whether you are a bona fide couch potato or experienced outdoor adventurer. With 47 miles of hiking trails, you can leisurely stroll along the Shepaug River or birdwatch along the fields at Johnson Farm. Desire a challenge—climb to the Steep Rock Summit, Waramaug Rock, or Hidden Valley Pinnacle. Then cool off with a swim, tubing, or fishing in the river. Extend your stay with a rustic camping experience at one of our three primitive campsites in Steep Rock Preserve. We offer an assortment of summer programs, from evening saunters to

our solstice firepit celebration to a family summer kick-off event on June 29th. And if you'd like to contribute to our efforts, join our Judea Garden volunteers for a day (or more) growing vegetables or our stewardship "work parties" who keep our trails in great condition. Never a dull moment with Steep Rock Association, so I hope you'll join us and have some fun this summer. See you on our trails...

Brian Hagenbuch, Ph.D.
Executive Director



Be on the Lookout!

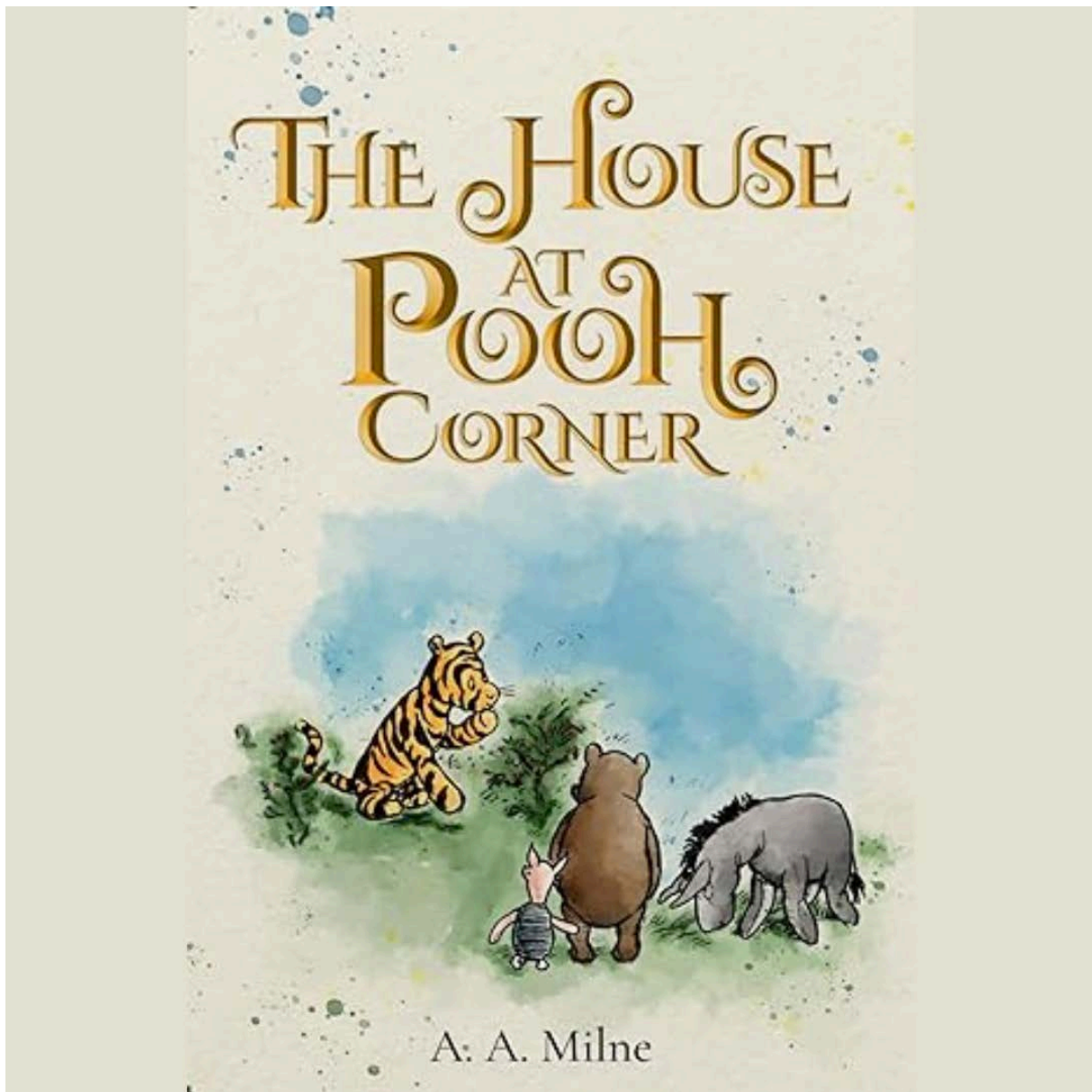
Please be on the lookout for turtles when driving and mowing this month. Females are on the move in search of a place to lay their eggs. Often that means traveling long distances on land, crossing roads, and frequenting yards. If you come across a turtle that can be safely escorted out of harm's way, carefully pick them up by the shell and move them the shortest distance possible, always in the direction they are heading.

Snappers are tough since they can do some damage and can be big, making them difficult (and also situationally dangerous) to pick up. We

don't recommend trying to handle them. If you find one of manageable size in the road or beginning to cross, you can grab them by the shell, obviously from behind. They should never be moved by the tail or head. Thank you for caring about turtles.

Seniors in Steep Rock Series

Steep Rock Association is pleased to announce the return of our popular "Seniors in Steep Rock" programs. Together with the Washington Senior Center, SRA is hosting four events that promote a vibrant, engaged, and healthy senior population in Washington and the Litchfield Hills. Our first program, Birding Bonanza, takes place on June 3 at Johnson Farm. The Seniors in Steep Rock programs are generously supported by a grant from the [Connecticut Community Foundation](#)'s "Pathways for Older Adults" program. [>more](#)



Story Time at Gunn Jr. Library

Join us for story time on Saturday, June 22! In cooperation with [Gunn Jr. Library](#), Steep Rock's Denise Arturi will read a chapter from *The House at Pooh corner* by A.A. Milne. Learn how Pooh invented a new game called Poohsticks then decorate your own "Pooh Stick" to launch at the [Family Summer Kick-Off Event](#) on Saturday, June 29.

Steep Rock Family Summer Kick-Off Event

Join us Saturday, June 29 at Steep Rock Preserve for a day filled with kid-friendly games, exploring, pizza, and family fun - what better way to kickoff the summer season! The day will feature a River Critter Hunt, Scavenger

Hunt, and a Pooh Sticks race - and there will be PIZZA from [Disco Forno's Pizza Truck!](#) RSVP recommended [>more](#)

Upcoming Events

Thanks to our donors, we're able to offer all of these events at no cost!

- **June 1 - [CT Trails Day](#)** - Hidden Valley Preserve
- **June 3 - [Seniors in Steep Rock: Birding Bonanza](#)** - Steep Rock Preserve
- **June 6 - [Weed & Wine](#)** - Judea Garden (Weekly on Thursdays!)
- **June 11 - [Spring Saunters](#)** - Hidden Valley Preserve
- **June 15 - [Monthly Trail Work Party](#)** - Judea Garden - Ages 16+.
- **June 15 - [Family Mindfulness Hike](#)** - Johnson Farm Preserve
- **June 20 - [Summer Solstice Firepit Celebration](#)** - Steep Rock House
- **June 22 - [Winnie the Pooh Storytime](#)** - Gunn Jr. Library
- **June 29 - [Family Summer Kick-Off Event](#)** - Steep Rock Preserve



Our Contact Information

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