



Dutchess County  
 Department of Public Works  
 Parks Division



**Naturalist's Corner**



Welcome to the Naturalist's Corner. Every month we will be posting ideas to build your awareness, challenge your knowledge and let you know what events and programs are coming up. We will also be highlighting pictures of the many beautiful locations within the parks, some that are hidden from the casual observer. So enjoy the challenges and we hope to see you in the parks.

**For more information or to reserve a date for a program, give us a call at 845.298.4602.**



**For More Information:**  
 Dutchess County Department of Public Works  
 Parks Division  
 845.298.4602 or [www.dutchessny.gov](http://www.dutchessny.gov)



Service, Support and Information  
[www.dutchessny.gov](http://www.dutchessny.gov)

**Steve Olsen**  
 Director of Parks



**Marcus J. Molinaro**  
 County Executive

# Naturalist's Corner February 2012

## Observation Challenges

Take a walk near your home. How many different tracks can you find? Try to identify one using a guide book or a computer.

The days are growing longer. Why does it get dark earlier in the winter? What is the date of the shortest day of the year?

As it gets colder, experiment with different clothing for warmth. What materials work best? Is one really thick layer better or worse than many light layers?

## Identification Challenge

Who do these tracks belong to?

Hint: Added some notes to the picture to help.

Notice that the front tracks are behind the Back tracks. What does that mean?



### December's Answer:

1) Maple 2) Hickory 3) Tulip



## What's Going on at the Parks

**New Weekend Archery Program :** New 4 session series starts March 24th!

**Summer Programs Sign-up Open :** Registrations are now being accepted for the 2012 summer Program. Sign-up early!

**Maple Sugaring Open House :** March 18th from 12pm to 4pm

For more info or to sign up for a program, visit our website or give us a call at 845.298.4602.

**“Sometimes a tree tells you more than can be read in books”**

**—Carl Jung**