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April Newsletter 2014

## Come Out For the Spring Peeper Walk — Tuesday Evening, April 22<sup>nd</sup>

The Historic Dreibelbis Farm celebrates **Earth Day** with a walk into our wetlands in search of Spring Peepers. You're invited to gather at 6:00 pm in front of the old farmhouse. Our naturalist-guide will be Richard Bonnett who will introduce us to these tiny amphibians and lead us into the farm's wetlands. Because this is a "walk on the wild side" of the historic farm, we suggest that participants wear waterproof boots... perhaps knee-high, if possible. Flashlights will be needed, too. For this event, we're restricting attendance to those age 13 and older. In the case of steady rain, the event will be canceled.



The Dreibelbis Farm Historical Society has worked with the Berks County Conservancy and other organizations to protect the farm from future development, preserve the historical resources of the site, and enhance the ecological value of wetlands and endangered species habitat onsite. Our non-profit corporation was founded to carry out this mission and make the resources of the farm available to the public.

The Historic Dreibelbis Farm is located outside of the village of Virginville along Rte. 143. Our GPS street address is 356 Hard Hill Road, Hamburg 19526. The Spring Peeper Walk is free to the public, parking is on-site and monetary donations will be gratefully accepted.

### Volunteer Opportunities



We're finally ready to replace the barn roof damaged during Hurricane Sandy. The insurance money is in the bank; supplies have been ordered; and a professional roofer is ready to lead our crew. **What we need are volunteers!** Some will be on

the roof to nail down metal roofing. Others will raise metal panels to the roof level. Some will stay on the ground, gathering materials. A few will serve as breakfast and lunch cooks. We hope to tackle this big job in June. If interested, call Mark!

### What's a Spring Peeper?

The spring peeper is a tiny, eastern chorus frog. Spring peepers are tan or brown with a dark cross that roughly forms an X on their backs. Males have a vocal sac near their throats which expands and deflates like a



balloon to create a short and distinct peeping sound. Their high-pitched call is often said to be similar to that of a young chicken, only much louder and rising slightly in tone. Spring peepers live primarily in forests and regenerating woodlands near semi-permanent wetlands.

### Coming Soon....

**Wildflower Walk**  
**Tentative Date:**  
**Sunday, May 18.**

For more information, contact Mark Dreibelbis at 610-488-7896 or [DreibelbisFarm@gmail.com](mailto:DreibelbisFarm@gmail.com).