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Introducing The Rookery at The Nature Place!

As an organization, Berks Nature long envisioned expanding the built space of The Nature Place to better accommodate their environmental educational programming and field trips. In researching and planning for this new space, they quickly realized that in addition to better serving the families and school districts of Berks County, an indoor-outdoor hybrid space of this size was unique for the Berks County region and could serve a larger community need as an event venue.

The name for this new space, The Rookery, is derived from the practice of great blue herons gathering in large rookery colonies each spring, building their nests together in the safety of the treetops. After breaking ground in June 2021, Berks Nature celebrated the official completion and opening of The Rookery in March 2022. The Rookery is a gathering space for their entire community of conservation allies. The Nature Place (including The Rookery Rooftop Deck) is a unique and flexible event space nestled among nearly 100 acres of Reading's Angelica Creek Park – a natural space lush with woods, wetlands, and wildflower meadows.

The Rookery is an environmentally responsible and aesthetically respectful addition to the existing campus of The Nature Place, built atop Berks Nature's Nature Preschool. Together, the airy interior space and rooftop patio of The Rookery can accommodate up to 300 people and provide a uniquely stunning vantage point over Angelica Creek Park.

Already, several local non-profits have hosted events at The Rookery at The Nature Place, including Schuylkill Action Network's Annual Meeting, the WeConserve PA Annual Conference, and Reading Musical Foundation, which hosted their Annual 'Berks Shines' Concert in this space, marking the first time The Rookery was set up with a stage and concert-style seating and even had a piano brought into the space! Being such a unique event venue for this area, The Rookery has quickly gained popularity for private events as well. In 2022 alone, 42 private rentals were booked. Some of the most popular types of events include weddings, graduation parties, anniversaries, and bridal showers.



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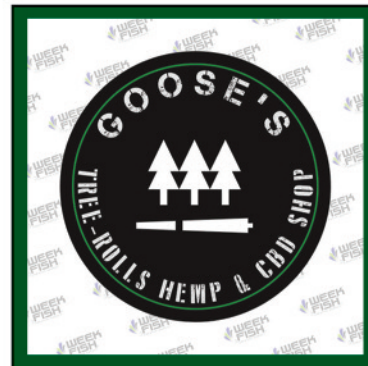
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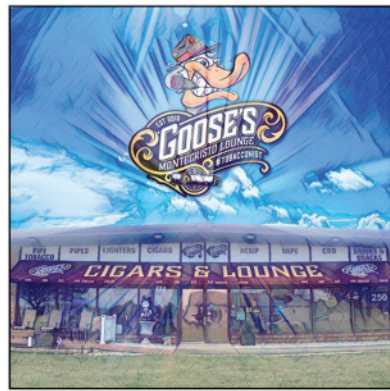
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Check out our New Mural!

Come visit us and see our beautiful
Retail & 2,500 sq ft Lounge areas!

Why Rent The Rookery at The Nature Place?

The Nature Place is a LEED Gold Certified building, recognizing its achievements as an efficient and sustainable venue. The building's features and operations are resource efficient, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and use less water and energy. All windows in The Nature Place and The Rookery are striped with an acid-etched pattern of horizontal stripes to discourage bird strikes. The carpeting in The Nature Place is made of recycled materials and locks together in a seamless pattern of smaller carpet squares, which generates less waste at installation and makes it easier to replace damaged or stained carpet in the future.

The Nature Place is constructed using several reclaimed building materials: the stairs utilize reclaimed wood from an industrial factory, the exterior wood siding is made from reclaimed cypress and hemlock mushroom boards, and the stone exterior has been sourced from dismantled barns across the Northeastern United States. Exterior sunshades help keep the The Nature Place cool while still allowing an abundance of natural light into office spaces and conference rooms.

For additional information, please visit the Rentals & Bookings page
of Berks Nature's website: berksnature.org

Accommodating of Any Size Event

The Rookery is a great size for larger events but also can be set up to accommodate smaller groups with plenty of room for breakout sessions or even a dance floor. In addition to The Rookery, there are several other rooms available to reserve within The Nature Place including two conference rooms and two classrooms, giving Berks Nature the flexibility to fit most any size or style rental from corporate meetings to children's birthday parties!

Unique Event or Meeting Agenda Possibilities

Thanks to its location in Angelica Creek Park and the hybrid indoor-outdoor setup in The Rookery, meetings or events at The Nature Place can be designed with fresh air breaks, perfect for recharging or team building. For example, go for a walk through Angelica Creek Park, or take a breather on the open-air patio of The Rookery! Berks Nature even offers a la carte items to add to your rental including a Berks Nature Staff-Led Hike or Activity to break up your day and enjoy some fresh air in Angelica Creek Park! Rental attendees are also welcome to enjoy their lunch on our beautiful rooftop deck.



Welcome to The Nature Place

Unique Gold LEED Certified Private and Corporate Events

With a rooftop deck, airy conference rooms, and gorgeous views of and access to the 100-acre Angelica Creek Park, the possibilities for your event are endless!

To start planning your event, visit the Rentals & Bookings page at Berks Nature's website: berksnature.org

