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www.mcconservation.org



MONROE COUNTY  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Spring 2022 Newsletter

Volume 45 No. 1



# County Wide Earth Day Event Returns to NCC

It has been three years since organizations from around Monroe County and beyond have gathered together to celebrate Earth Day and we are looking forward to once again co-sponsoring the Monroe County Earth Day Celebration on Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Northampton Community College Monroe Campus located in Tannersville. We are grateful to have the college hosting the event and we are looking forward to a fun-filled day.

This year's Earth Day schedule will be ongoing from 10am-3pm and will feature numerous groups associated with the environment and outdoors in the Poconos displaying information on what their organizations offer and also places you can go in the county to explore. We have seen a big growth in outdoor activities and our vendors are ready to provide you with many options to take advantage of the beautiful surroundings that exist in our own backyards.

The college cafeteria will have a mouth-watering menu of food for sale throughout the day and The Monroe County Municipal Waste Management Authority will again be running a tire amnesty drop off. Displays on trail systems, summer camps, alternate energy sources, electric vehicles, water quality and so much more will be both inside and outside the campus buildings. A children's activity area will be filled with hands-on activities for children of all ages and there will also be a spot for everyone to make their own Spotted Lanternfly trap to take home, (while supplies last).

Four different local bands will provide the entertainment throughout the day and the Monroe County Conservation Teacher of the year will be awarded at 11:30am. Don't miss out on this opportunity to spend a day outside celebrating the Earth and finding out about all the local organizations that help protect it.

**Visit [mcearthday.org](http://mcearthday.org) for up to date information on this event.**

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## Bugfest Art Contest

All young artists are invited to participate in the first ever Kettle Creek Bugfest Art Contest! This year's theme is "Bugs are Beautiful." Artwork should reflect the natural beauty of all insects (not just the butterflies!) Entrants will be on display in the Gallery at Kettle Creek in July. Check out [mcconservation.org](http://mcconservation.org) for details!





**Monroe County  
Conservation District  
Board of Directors**

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Delaney Henasey  
Office Assistant

The Board of Directors' monthly meeting is held at 8 am on the third Thursday of each month in the District office.

**Kettle Creek Environmental  
Fund Update**

The KCEF Board is looking forward to spring and the renewal it brings. Although the December field trip to Nescopeck State Park was interesting, the Board and Staff are currently looking at a major project that would redesign the concrete ramp entrance area into an interactive exhibit with a water feature. This project is in the very early preliminary stage, but has the potential to be a great asset to the EE Center. Stay tuned for more details as the planning for this project progresses.

September 29<sup>th</sup> has been selected as the date for the 30<sup>th</sup> annual fundraiser at Trout Lake. We hope that conditions will allow this event to go forward and that you will be able to join us for this milestone event. The Board is still soliciting additional members to fill vacant positions. If you are interested, please contact Diana Flint at the EE Center. We wish you all a Happy Easter and thank you for your ongoing support. Please stay safe.

*-John Woodling, KCEF President*



Spring is here and the whole natural community is busy with the happenings of spring. Kettle Creek is also busy gearing up for new programs, school visits, and big events! With the improvement of the COVID numbers, schools will once again be visiting us for spring field trips. Whether we are teaching about trees, bugs, frogs, or flowers, the EE staff is excited about welcoming area students to the building and Kettle Creek trails for a hands-on outdoor experience.

There are also many other things being planned for the coming months including the County Earth Day celebration On April 23<sup>rd</sup> at NCC, our monthly art exhibits and openings, Envirothon competitions, summer camps, and so much more. We encourage you to check out our website calendar and keep updated on our social networks as we announce our program schedule. Sometimes not all the events make it on our newsletter calendar, so keep checking in for the latest updates.

While there will be loads of programs to choose from please don't forget that the 3 ½ miles of trails at Kettle Creek are open 7 days a week from dawn to dusk and offer the opportunity to explore and experience the Pocono's natural environment. May I suggest a visit to one of our vernal pools at the end of the quarry on Kreger trail to listen as first the wood frogs and then the spring peepers as they announce that spring has arrived? Or how about wandering past one of ponds and searching for the Canadian goose nest that is always there? You could even search out some of the spring wildflowers as they bloom along several of our trails in late April and May. The Pink Lady Slippers are especially beautiful in mid-May near the junction of Songbird and Squirrel trails. We encourage you to get outside and visit Kettle Creek often as nature has a way of offering new discoveries every day.

Roger Spotts  
Environmental Education Coordinator

**KCEF  
Board  
Members**



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Ed Cramer, Treasurer  
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Gareth Denniston  
Tim Fisher, II  
Kara Klaus-Major  
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Dr. Elaine Rogers

# Summer Camps Are Here!

Looking for a different kind of summer camp for your child? We've got you covered!  
We are offering three different age appropriate camps this year.



- **Get in Touch with Nature**—Ages 7-10— **August 1-5**—Get outside and explore this special place we call home! This camp is very hands on with nature so plan on getting muddy! **\$165 per camper. Late pickup available.**
- **Adventure Camp**—Ages 11-13— **August 1-5**—Grab your gear and head out with us as we explore interesting places in the Poconos. This camp will include lots of fun field trips! **\$180 per camper Late pickup available.**
- **Conservation Camp**—Ages 14-2022 HS Graduates— **July 16-23**—This week long residential camp is held at Stony Acres facility in East Stroudsburg and offers campers the opportunity to learn from environmental professionals from all over Monroe County. Campers will even head out on a two-day canoeing trip along the Delaware River. **\$200 per camper or \$75 with scholarship** (see application for details)

Registration for all camps is limited. Please visit our website or give us a call for more information.



## Fall Bus Trips Offered

We are once again offering amazing bus trips this fall! Join us on a three-day camping trip to Cherry Springs State Park, September 23<sup>rd</sup> through 25<sup>th</sup> where we will stargaze and explore the wilderness. Head to western Pennsylvania with us September 20<sup>th</sup> through 22<sup>nd</sup> as we venture out to Elk County to observe elk during mating season. If you are more of a birder, you can hop on the bus from October 30<sup>th</sup> through November 2<sup>nd</sup> and head down to Assateague and Chincoteague, Virginia searching for shore birds and even wild ponies! Preregistration for these trips is required and don't hesitate---they will fill up fast!

**For more information and pricing visit [mconconservation.org](http://mconconservation.org) or register by calling 570-629-3061.**



## Program Guidelines

Masks are mandatory at all times while indoors, on the bus or where social distancing cannot be maintained.

Preregistration is required for all programs offered unless noted otherwise by calling 570-629-3061.

Cash or checks made payable to MCCD only.

Refunds will be given only if notification is made at least one week prior to the trip/program.

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# 2022 Spring Programming

## April Fools Mystery Bus Trip

Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup> - 8:30am—4pm

Jump on the Kettle Creek Bus with EE Coordinator Roger Spotts as we spend the day exploring locations in Monroe County searching out the early signs of spring. **Participants should dress for the weather, pack a lunch, binoculars, and something to drink. Registration is required by Wednesday, March 30. Cost: \$25 per person.**

## Meet the Artist: Nancy Embich

Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> - 11am

Come out and meet local artist, Nancy Embich for the debut of her work in the Gallery at Kettle Creek. Her exhibit, entitled "Capturing the Music in Nature" depicts the special moments of observation and connection with the natural world. **No registration is required.**

Cost: FREE

**Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> – 9am-1pm - Building Open**

**Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> – 9am-1pm - Building Open**

## Full Moon Bog Hike

Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup> - 6:30pm

Explore the bog under the light of a full moon. The walk begins at 6:30pm and participants should bring a flashlight. Please wear appropriate footwear.

**Preregistration is required and limited. Masks required.**

**Meet at the Tannersville Bog parking lot.**

Cost: \$5 per person

**Friday, April 15<sup>th</sup> - Building Closed - Holiday**

**Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup> - Building Closed**

## Exploring Long Pond: A Trip Down the Tunkhannock Creek Marshlands

Friday, April 29<sup>th</sup> – 9am

Join us for a 6-mile paddle through the Tunkhannock Creek and Long Pond wetland system. This rare and diverse protected habitat – the Pocono Barrens – is home to many special species of plants and animals! The trip will begin at 9am where we will meet at the bridge on Kuhlenbeaker Road, arrange shuttle, and then paddle to our take-out spot on Long Pond around 3pm. Participants need to provide their own canoe/kayak, PFD, appropriate water shoes, binoculars, lunch, water bottle, and be sure to dress in layers! *This trip is water level dependent and cancellation may occur.* **Pre-registration is required by Tuesday before the program. Registration is limited.**

Cost: \$15

## Monroe County Earth Day Event at NCC

Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> – 10am-3pm

Join us as we celebrate Monroe County's environmental efforts and successes! There will be ongoing live music, exhibitors, tire amnesty, children's activities, food and more! Sponsored by MCCD and Northampton Community College (NCC) Monroe campus, the event will take place at NCC's beautiful Monroe campus on Rt. 715 in Tannersville. Don't miss it!

**Check out [mcearthday.org](http://mcearthday.org) for more information.**



**Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> - Building Closed**

**Bog Experiences: Bird Photography**

**Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> - 7am**

Bring your camera as we explore the Tannersville Bog to photograph birds in the morning light. Please wear appropriate footwear. **Pre-registration is required and limited. Meet at the Tannersville Bog parking lot.**

**Masks required.**

**Cost: \$5 per person**

**Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> – 9am-1pm - Building Open**

**Bog Experiences: Bird Migration**

**Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> - 7am**

Join us for a special hike at the Tannersville Bog in search of migrating birds. Please wear appropriate footwear. **Pre-registration is required and limited. Meet at the Tannersville Bog parking lot.**

**Masks required. Cost: \$5 per person**

**Spotted Lanternfly for Homeowners**

**Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> - 11am-1pm**

The Spotted Lanternfly is a non-native invasive species that has been wreaking havoc in Pennsylvania ever since its first appearance in 2014. Not only is the SLF an extreme nuisance to homeowners but it can cause a major economic impact on the agricultural industry as well. Join Matt at the Monroe County Conservation District May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to learn more about the SLF and what you can do to help prevent its spread. **There is no cost for this event however preregistration is required. Lunch will be provided.**

**Sunday Bog Walk**

**Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup> - 1pm**

Join us at 1pm at the Bog parking lot and take a 2 ½ hour guided journey into the unique Tannersville Cranberry Bog. Along the way, our environmental educators will explain the Bog's formation, its interesting plant and animal life, and the role the local Preserve Committee and the Nature Conservancy play in its continued protection. Please wear appropriate footwear. **Pre-registration is required and limited.**

**Meet at the Tannersville Bog parking lot. Masks required.**

**Cost: \$5 per person**

**Bog Experiences: Bog Wildlife**

**Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> - 7am**

Join us for a special hike at the Tannersville Bog where we will discuss the wildlife that resides here. Please wear appropriate footwear. **Pre-registration is required and limited.**

**Meet at the Tannersville Bog parking lot. Masks required.**

**Cost: \$5 per person**



**Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup> - Building Closed**

**Bog Experiences: Bog Wildflowers**

**Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup> - 7am**

Join us for a special hike at the Tannersville Bog where we will discuss the unique wildflowers that grow in the bog. Please wear appropriate footwear. **Pre-registration is required and limited.**

**Meet at the Tannersville Bog parking lot. Masks required.**

**Cost: \$5 per person**

**Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup> - Building Closed**

**Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup> - Building Closed – Holiday**





## Program Guidelines

Masks are mandatory at all times while indoors, on the bus or where social distancing cannot be maintained.

Preregistration is required for all programs offered unless noted otherwise by calling 570-629-3061.

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*Refunds will be given only if notification is made at least one week prior to the trip/program.*

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# 2022 Spring Programming *(cont.)*



## Canoe/Kayak Trip at the Bog Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> – 10am

Join us on a paddling trip into the Bog Preserve on Cranberry Creek. The program lasts 3 hours. Participants are required to provide their own kayak or canoe. **Meet at the Bog parking lot at 10am. Pre-registration is required and limited.**

**Cost: \$15**

## Red Cross Blood Drive Saturday, June 4<sup>th</sup> – 9am-2pm

We are proud to be hosting another blood drive from 9am-2pm. Call Barbara at MCCD at 570-629-3060 for more information. **To register or learn more about American Red Cross blood drives, visit [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) or call 1-800-RED CROSS**

## Canoe/Kayak Trip at the Bog Tuesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> – 10am

Join us on a paddling trip into the Bog Preserve on Cranberry Creek. The program lasts 3 hours. Participants are required to provide their own kayak or canoe. **Meet at the Bog parking lot at 10am. Pre-registration is required and limited.**

**Cost: \$15**

## Wednesday Bog Walk Wednesday, June 8<sup>th</sup> - 10am

Join us at 10am at the Bog parking lot and take a 2 ½ hour guided journey into the unique Tannersville Cranberry Bog. Along the way, our environmental educators will explain the Bog's formation, its interesting plant and animal life, and the role the local Preserve Committee and the Nature Conservancy play in its continued protection. Please wear appropriate footwear. **Pre-registration is required and limited.**

**Masks required. Meet at the Tannersville Bog parking lot.**

**Cost: \$5 per person**

## Tree I.D. Hike Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> - 10am

Come hike the trails at Kettle Creek and learn about the history, uses, and the unique ecology of the trees growing in your own backyard.

**Cost: \$5 for adults \$4 for children under 12.**

## Saturday Bog Walk Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> - 2pm

Join us at 2pm at the Bog parking lot and take a 2 ½ hour guided journey into the unique Tannersville Cranberry Bog. Along the way, our environmental educators will explain the Bog's formation, its interesting plant and animal life, and the role the local Preserve Committee and the Nature Conservancy play in its continued protection. Please wear appropriate footwear.

**Pre-registration is required and limited. Masks required.**

**Meet at the Tannersville Bog parking lot.**

**Cost: \$5 per person**

### Wednesday Bog Walk

Wednesday, June 15<sup>th</sup> - 10am

Join us at 10am at the Bog parking lot and take a 2 ½ hour guided journey into the unique Tannersville Cranberry Bog. Along the way, our environmental educators will explain the Bog's formation, its interesting plant and animal life, and the role the local Preserve Committee and the Nature Conservancy play in its continued protection. Please wear appropriate footwear. **Pre-registration is required and limited. Meet at the Tannersville Bog parking lot. Masks required.**

Cost: \$5 per person

### Sunset Bog Walk

Thursday, June 16<sup>th</sup> - 7pm

Explore the beauty of the bog just as the sun sets. Please wear appropriate footwear. **Pre-registration is required and limited. Meet at the Tannersville Bog parking lot.**

Cost: \$5 per person

### Wednesday Bog Walk

Wednesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> - 10am

Join us at 10am at the Bog parking lot and take a 2 ½ hour guided journey into the unique Tannersville Cranberry Bog. Along the way, our environmental educators will explain the Bog's formation, its interesting plant and animal life, and the role the local Preserve Committee and the Nature Conservancy play in its continued protection. Please wear appropriate footwear. **Pre-registration is required and limited. Meet at the Tannersville Bog parking lot. Masks required.**

Cost: \$5 per person

*Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup> - Building Closed*

*Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup> - Building Closed - Holiday*

### Family Scavenger Hunt

Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup>—10am

Gather up the family and join in on this fun-filled Scavenger Hunt at Kettle Creek. All families will receive a challenging list of natural items located on the Kettle Creek property. Using cell phones found items will be photographed for later confirmation.

All families who complete the Hunt successfully will be awarded a prize!

Cost: \$10 per family

### Wednesday Bog Walk

Wednesday, June 29<sup>th</sup> - 10am

Join us at 10am at the Bog parking lot and take a 2 ½ hour guided journey into the unique Tannersville Cranberry Bog. Along the way, our environmental educators will explain the Bog's formation, its interesting plant and animal life, and the role the local Preserve Committee and the Nature Conservancy play in its continued protection. Please wear appropriate footwear. **Pre-registration is required and limited.**

**Meet at the Tannersville Bog parking lot. Masks required.**

Cost: \$5 per person



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*Conserving Natural Resources for Our Future*

Kettle Creek Environmental Education Center

# STARGAZING TRIP To Cherry Springs Dark Sky Park

September 23<sup>rd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>, 2022

A 3-day excursion of camping, stargazing, and exploring the wilderness  
of central Pennsylvania

Trip includes:


- \* Transportation, Two breakfasts, Two lunches, One dinner
- \* One night stay at Cherry Springs State Park Campground
- \* One night stay at Lyman Run State Park Campground with beach, boat rental, and hiking trails
- \* Tents available if needed
- \* Guided Night Sky Tour in conjunction with the Black Forest Star Party (weather-permitting)
- \* Bicycle rental and shuttle for a ride on the Pine Creek Trail through the Pennsylvania Grand Canyon
- \* Farm-to-Table dinner (not included in price)



**Cost: \$225 per person**

This trip is limited to twelve people. Please make all checks payable to MCCD. Payments are non-refundable within four weeks of trip date.

8050 Running Valley Road, Stroudsburg, PA 18360 • (570) 629-3061

 KettleCreekEnvironmentalEducationCenter • [www.mcconservation.org](http://www.mcconservation.org)