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Stroudsburg, PA 18360

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Env. Education: 570-629-3061
www.mcconservation.org



MONROE COUNTY
CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Summer 2022 Newsletter

Volume 45 No. 2



We're Buggin' Out!

Looking for something exciting to do with your little ones this summer? Join us at Kettle Creek for our annual BugFest celebration!

Kettle Creek has been hosting this event for 10 years bringing the mystery and excitement of our six-legged friends to light. This is an excellent opportunity to learn and explore all of the unique qualities of these amazing lifeforms and even get a close up look at our insect zoo!

Sadly, the general population of insects on our planet has been on a steady decline from causes such as pesticide/ herbicide use, habitat loss and non-native invasive species to name a few, but just learning more about them can help slow down or even reverse that trend.

Families are invited to come out Saturday, July 9th and have some buggy fun with live critters, displays, games, take home crafts and much more! Sign up for the morning session from 9:30am-12pm or the afternoon session from 12:30pm-3pm. Entrants from our BugFest Art Contest will be on display throughout the month of July but winners will be awarded at 12pm during the BugFest event.

Preregistration for BugFest is required by calling 570-629-3061.

We hope to see you there!



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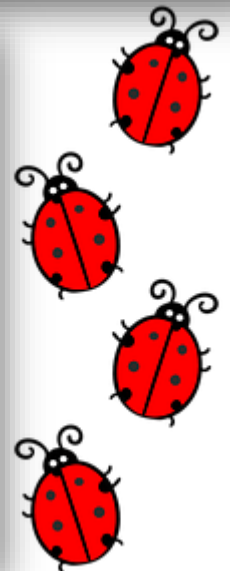
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**Monroe County
Conservation District
Board of Directors**

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Chuck Gould, Secretary
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Environmental Education Coordinator

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Environmental Educators

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Diana Flint, Jenna Nalaschi
Office Assistant Senior

Becky Hippler
Groundskeeper

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**

As we approach the start of summer, the KCEF Board is concentrating on the annual fundraiser which is scheduled for September 29th, 2022 at Trout Lake. The menu has been selected, and the list of games has been finalized. Some new games have been added so please come out and try your hand at them while supporting Kettle Creek.

The Board congratulates the Envirothon team from Pleasant Valley on their great performances at the local and state level. Pleasant Valley placed 4th in the PA Sate Envirothon. Way to go PV!

KCEF participated in NEPA Gives , which is a 24 hour event where folks can donate to a charity of their choice online, for the second year and was able to raise \$1,690. We would like to thank all of our amazing donors for their contributions.

The Board is still soliciting additional members. Please contact Diana at the EE Center if you are interested. Have a great summer!

-John Woodling, KCEF President



Wow, what a spring at Kettle Creek! If you visited us or talked to one of the education staff they may have been a little hurried as we went through one of the busiest springs we have ever seen at the Center. Due to the lifting of some COVID restrictions, numerous school groups were involved in educational programs both in the schools and also at outdoor sites at Kettle Creek, the Bog, and the pond at Meesing Nature Center. Beginning on March 14th and running until June 1st there were only four weekdays where we did not have at least one school group scheduled and many days it was three to four groups taking part in educational programs. It was a welcome return to a busy schedule after two years of limited programs. The really neat thing about all the programs was how excited the students were to take part. It didn't matter what the age group or activity, students were excited to learn more about the natural environment around them.

Building on the busy spring schedule, we are looking forward to our summer program offerings with great anticipation. We have a full slate of programs for all ages in June, July and August. From camps to our popular KC for Kids pre-school programs, to the annual BugFest we are excited to once again offer programs for all ages. We hope you can join us for some of the programs including Liliana's Discovery Area Open House in August. Also, the trails are open every day and provide visitors the opportunity to explore the 166 acres at Kettle Creek on your own.

We look forward to seeing you this summer!
Roger Spotts
Environmental Education Coordinator

**KCEF
Board
Members**



John Woodling, Pres.
Leslie J. Berger, Vice-Pres.
Joseph Bedrick, Secretary
Ed Cramer, Treasurer
Patrick Calpin
Gareth Denniston
Kara Klaus-Major
John Reilly
Dr. Elaine Rogers

Goodbye and Good Luck Matt!

Kettle Creek is saying goodbye to environmental educator, Matt Giambra. Matt has been part of the Conservation District staff since 2015. He came on board as the Agriculture Technician and worked with the farming community in Monroe County for four years promoting conservation and agriculture throughout the county.

In 2019, Matt became a full-time educator and joined the Kettle Creek Staff, providing EE programs for people of all ages. Matt's enthusiasm was contagious as he led groups on their outdoor adventures. Participants in his programs were treated to loads of discoveries with Matt right beside them enjoying the whole process. His skill as a photographer was a tremendous help to Kettle Creek as we promoted the Center through photographs and as we entered the world of virtual programming during COVID. Matt was also a big part of our school programming efforts as schools returned to field trips this past spring.

As do all educators that work with us at Kettle Creek, Matt is leaving behind his creative program ideas and his own personal spin on our educational efforts. We will always appreciate Matt for his willingness to work with any program and the enthusiasm he showed. We will also remember his pepperoni and Coke lunches in the sugar bush.

Matt is moving on to share his skills with the Luzerne County Visitors Bureau and we wish him the best. Thanks for all your hard work at Kettle Creek Matt! We hope you will visit us in the sugar bush next season!

KCEEC Staff



*Join Us For a
Weekend Stargazing Trip to
Cherry Springs Dark Sky Park
& the PA Grand Canyon!*

September 23-25, 2022

*Call 570-629-3061 or visit our website
for all the fun details!*

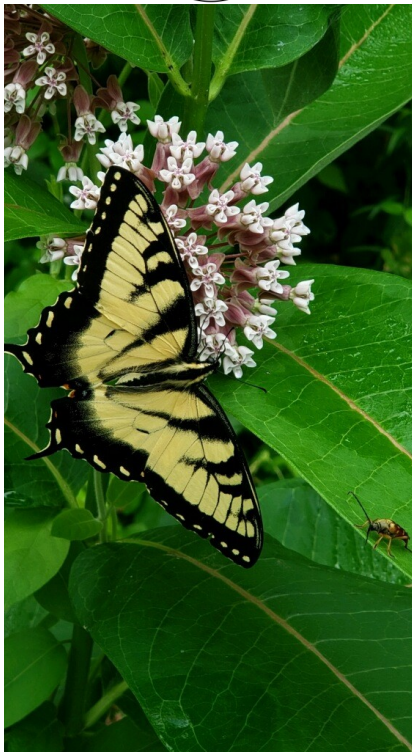
Cost: \$225 / person



Thank you to everyone who donated at our recent blood drive! Mark your calendars!

The next blood drive at MCCD is scheduled for **Saturday, October 1st from 9am-2pm**

For information, call Barbara at (570) 629-3060. To register, please visit the website or call the phone number below.



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.

Kettle Creek
Environmental Education Center
8050 Running Valley Road
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(570)629-3061
www.mcconservation.org

2022 Summer Programming

Family Scavenger Hunt

Saturday, June 25th—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 29th - 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.

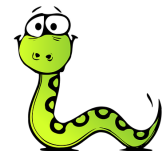
Cost: \$5 per person

KC for Kids: Super Snakes

Thursday, June 30th - 10am

Snakes truly are super creatures! Join us as we learn all about them and make a cool snake craft. **This program is for children ages 3 - 6. (Parents must attend with their child.)** Pre-registration is required and limited.

Cost: \$5 per child.



Saturday, July 2nd – Building Closed

Monday, July 4th – Building Closed—Holiday

Wednesday Bog Walk

Wednesday, July 6th - 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.

Preregistration is required and limited.

Meet at the Tannersville Bog parking lot.

Cost: \$5 per person.

KC for Kids: Where the Bugs Buzz

Thursday, July 7th - 10am

Come learn about insects and the places they call home here at Kettle Creek. **This program is for children ages 3 - 6. (Parents must attend with their child.)** Preregistration is required and limited.

Cost: \$5 per child.



BugFest

Saturday, July 9th - 9:30am-12pm & 12:30pm-3pm

Displays, activities, games, crafts, live insects, insect safaris, and presentations all day, all about insects! Join us for the morning or afternoon session. Entrants into our BugFest Art Contest will be on display and winners will be awarded at 12pm! Come dressed as your favorite bug and participate and receive a discount on admission price!

Cost: \$5/child ages 4 - 12. Parents can attend for free.

Sunday Bog Walk
Sunday, July 10th - 11am

Join us at 11am 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.
Cost: \$5 per person

Wednesday Bog Walk
Wednesday, July 13th - 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.
Cost: \$5 per person.



KC for Kids: Bones, Beaks and Feathers
Thursday, July 14th - 10am

Learn all about what makes birds so unique then get a chance to observe a few that call Kettle Creek home!

This program is for children ages 3 - 6. (Parents must attend with their child.)

Preregistration is required and limited.
Cost: \$5 per child.



Sunset Bog Walk
Thursday, July 14th - 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

Saturday, July 16th - Building Closed—Conservation Camp Begins!

Wednesday Bog Walk
Wednesday, July 20th - 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.
Cost: \$5 per person.

KC for Kids: Wonder Walkers
Thursday, July 21st - 10am

We will read the beautiful picture collage book "Wonder Walkers" then we will take our curiosity outside and explore the Kettle Creek trails for some wandering and wondering, making connections and drawing our own conclusions! **This program is for children ages 3 - 6. (Parents must attend with their child.)**

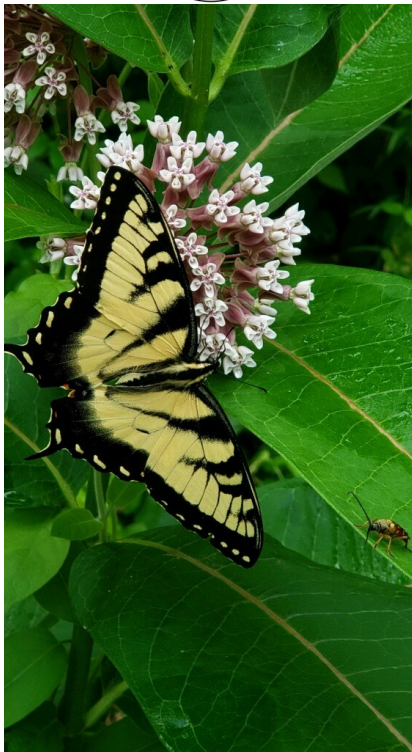
Preregistration is required and limited to 15 children per program. Cost: \$5 per child.

Saturday, July 23rd - Building Closed

Wednesday Bog Walk
Wednesday, July 27th - 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.

Preregistration is required and limited.
Meet at the Tannersville Bog parking lot.
Cost: \$5 per person.



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 Summer Programming *(cont.)*



KC for Kids: Fantastic Frogs Thursday, July 28th - 10am

Hop along the trails at Kettle Creek where we will learn about frogs and maybe catch a few too! **This program is for children ages 3 - 6. (Parents must attend with their child.)**
Preregistration is required and limited.
Cost: \$5 per child.



Wednesday Bog Walk Wednesday, August 3rd - 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.
Cost: \$5 per person.

Saturday, August 6th - Building Closed

Wednesday Bog Walk Wednesday, August 10th - 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.
Cost: \$5 per person.

Discovery Area Celebration Saturday, August 13th - 11am

Join us at 11am in Lilliana's Nature Discovery Area for a celebration of all of the wonderful new elements to this special place at Kettle Creek. There will be food, refreshments, a friendly fairy house competition and more! More details to be announced.

Cost: Free

Salt Painting with Artist Kathy Crane Saturday, August 13th - 10am

Come and try watercolor painting with salt - a fun experience for all ages - children, teens and adults. All supplies will be provided. Kathy Crane will help you learn this technique. Her artwork will also be on display in the Gallery at Kettle Creek during the month of August.

Cost: Free



Saturday Bog Walk

Saturday, August 13th - 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.
Meet at the Tannersville Bog parking lot.
Cost: \$5 per person

Wednesday Bog Walk

Wednesday, August 17th - 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.
Cost: \$5 per person.

Saturday, August 20th - Building Closed

Wednesday Bog Walk

Wednesday, August 24th - 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.
Cost: \$5 per person.

Japanese Invasive Plants in PA: A World Historical Perspective

Saturday, August 27th - 10am

Join Dr. Tom Mounkhal from St. John's University at 10am as he shares his research about the introduction and subsequent invasion of Japanese plants into Pennsylvania. Dr. Mounkhal's research delves into the cross-regional connections among China, Japan, Western Europe, and the United States from the 17th to early 20th century that brought seven invasive Japanese plants to Pennsylvania. Following the presentation, we will take the opportunity to walk the Kettle Creek trails to identify some of these invasive plants and discuss management strategies for dealing with them. **Pre-registration is required.**

Cost: \$5 per person

Wednesday Bog Walk

Wednesday, August 31st - 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.
Cost: \$5 per person.

Saturday, September 3rd - Building Closed

Monday, September 5th - Building Closed—Holiday

PUBLISHED BY:
MONROE COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT
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