

Summer 2016 Newsletter ~~~~~ Volume 40 No. 2

Monroe County Conservation District 8050 Running Valley Road Stroudsburg, PA 18360

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# Proudly Announcing our Award Recipients!

On March 15, the Pennsylvania Association of Environmental Educators recognized our Environmental Education Coordinator, Roger Spotts, with the prestigious "Keystone Award." This award recognizes an educator who has dedicated their life to advancing the quality and opportunity for environmental education in Pennsylvania. Roger was nominated by his long-time colleague, Karen Boyle, who described Roger as having a "passion for educating people of all ages, which inspires, motivates, and energizes those who interact with him no matter the context." Here at MCCD, we cannot think of anyone more deserving of this award. We, and all of Monroe County, are lucky to have you!



Kettle Creek EE Center held its Annual Members & Friends of Conservation Dinner at Trout Lake Retreat on April 8. For the 32nd year, we are pleased to be able to recognize individuals and groups who have contributed to our environmental education effort in Monroe County.

Continued on page 6...



From left: Tobyhanna Elementary Center Teacher Eric Argot, 2015 Conservation Educator of the Year; Dana Petrosino of Pocono Mountain West High School, Stanley Becker Environmental Resource Scholarship recipient; Michael Carr of East Stroudsburg, 2015 Volunteer of the Year; and Jackie Speicher, representing Pocono Avian Research Center, recipient of Kettle Creek EE Center's Service Award.

On April 6, Environmental Educator Karen N. Boyle was awarded the Outstanding Alumni Award for 2015-2016 from East Stroudsburg University's Degree Program in Recreation Services Management, for "outstanding service which exemplifies dedication to the principles of professionalism."



Monroe County Earth Day was a big success!

Planning is already underway for the 2nd Annual Monroe County Earth Day April 22, 2017!



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#### Monroe County Conservation District Board of Directors

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Mark Sincavage, Vice-Chairperson
Patrick Ross, Secretary
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#### **District Staff**

Craig Todd District Manager

Lori Kerrigan Head Resource Conservationist

> Drew K. Wagner, P.E., Michael J. Wilk, P.E. Hydraulic Engineers

Matthew Giambra, John Motz, Andrea Mikol Resource Conservation Specialists

> Steven Baade Resource Conservationist

Roger Spotts
Environmental Education Coordinator

Karen N. Boyle, Brittney Coleman, Brian Hardiman, Darryl Speicher Environmental Educators

Barbara Bistrais Administrative Coordinator

Alesia Gallo, Debra Martin Office Assistant Senior

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

#### District Manager Craig Todd Retiring after 34 Years at the Conservation District

The Conservation District is losing our longest tenured employee when Craig Todd retires later this year. Craig began working for the Monroe County Conservation District in February 1982 as a District Naturalist. He became a District Resource Conservationist in October 1983 and District Manager in 1989 where he has served continuously since then. Throughout his career at the Conservation District. Craig has worked with an everchanging Board of Directors and associate directors, County commissioners, and numerous conservation partners. He has supervised up to 17 employees at a time on the District Staff and maintained a work environment that has fostered conservation initiatives on the local, state, regional, and federal levels.

Craig has initiated conservation partnerships, worked cooperatively with conservation partners at all levels, and has been instrumental in protecting the resources of Monroe County, the Delaware River Basin, and the Commonwealth of PA. With the approval of the Board of Directors, he has taken the lead on projects and initiatives that have changed the way conservation practices are carried out on all levels. He has worked locally with other agencies in Monroe County on planning, agricultural land and open space preservation, stormwater management, water quality studies, and litter control and beautification. He has also worked with businesses and economic development organizations to promote smart growth and development while maintaining a strong and compliant resource conservation program.

On the state level he has served on numerous PACD (PA Association of Conservation Districts) committees and partnered with DEP on developing policies that benefit conservation districts across the state. He has worked with Federal agencies as well, including Fish and Wildlife and the Army Corps of Engineers on establishing local field offices and on protecting the unique and dwindling wetland resources of Monroe County. He served on the Cherry Valley National Wildlife Refuge Study team which was the lead in establishing the Refuge in Monroe County.

Craig's commitment and unique approach to conservation in Monroe County has served as a model for other districts within the state as well as for our state and federal conservation partners. He has seen the Conservation District and the EE Center through many issues and much growth. He was the lead person when the District facility at Kettle Creek was built in 1991 and expanded in 1999. His countless hours of hard work and dedication have shaped our programs for over 30 years. It is difficult to lose a person who has dedicated his life to the Conservation District but Craig ensures everyone that he will still be around helping out with educational programs and parking cars at some of our bigger events. We wish Craig the best of luck in the next chapter of his life and a friendly reminder that Public Maple Sugaring Day in the Sugarbush is scheduled for Saturday, March 4, 2017. ♥

Note from MCCD staff: Thank you Craig for your guidance, support, and inspiration. Your legacy at MCCD will always be cherished!

### News'N Notes

# Chapter 102 / 105 Delegation Agreements

Recognizing the need to maximize available resources and eliminate unnecessary duplication of effort and delays in the administration of the PA Title 25 Chapter 102 for Erosion and Sediment Pollution Control Program (E & S Program), the Post Construction Stormwater Management Program (PCSM Program) and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Program (NPDES Program), the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Monroe County Conservation District (MCCD), through approval of the Board of Directors, has renewed a delegation agreement to provide a more efficient program for the public.

The program aims to protect, maintain, reclaim, and restore water quality and existing and designated uses of waters of the Commonwealth and to provide for the conservation of soil, water, and related resources of the Commonwealth. The delegated responsibilities include those related to agriculture erosion and sediment control.

MCCD is also delegated to administer the Water Obstruction and Encroachment Permitting gram, (WOEP Program) under 25 PA Code Chapter 105. The program delegation provides for regulatory functions including enforcement and the power to permit, inspect, and monitor specified categories of water obstructions and encroachments. MCCD is delegated to authorize most General Permits (GP) for the program in the County, which significantly reduces that processing time for acknowledging the use of the permits.

MCCD's website <a href="http://www.mcconservation.org">http://www.mcconservation.org</a> has been recently revamped to be more user -friendly and provide vital information regarding these programs. All the Technical Services offered through MCCD are outlined on the website and include links to applications as well as technical guidance and manuals commonly used by designers, homeowners, and contractors.

For more information, contact MCCD directly at 570-629-3060. ❖

### MCCD Maps Stormwater BMPs

MCCD along with interns from East Stroudsburg University and Shippensburg University have been working for the past four semesters to identify, map, and catalog Post Construction Stormwater Management (PCSM) Best Management Practices (BMP) for Monroe County development projects. The development projects span more than a decade worth of sites to be entered into the database.

The purpose for this project is to establish layers in a Geographic Information System (GIS) which identify what BMPs are present on a developed site, where they are

located on the site, what stormwater function they provide, provide links to engineered drawings and details of the BMPs, and identify the operation and maintenance (O&M) schedule for the BMPs.

This GIS layer will allow the users to

quickly identify what BMPs are on a given site and allow the user to identify what the O&M responsibility of those BMPs are. This is useful when investigating stormwater runoff concerns, before a developer purchases an existing developed property to identify and quantify O&M responsibilities, when performing BMP inspections, and allows Engineers and developers of adjacent parcels to plan their developments.

The assistance provided by the interns not only benefited them by obtaining credit towards their degrees and gaining real-world work experience but also saved the District tens of thousands of dollars.

Thanks to East Stroudsburg University's Dr. Jeffery Hardy, Dr. Shixiong (Shawn) Hu, and Shippensburg University's Dr. William Blewett for partnering with MCCD to make this advanced project a reality.

A special thanks to the following interns from ESU and Shippensburg University: Cheng Zhu, Wei Li, Wenyue, Xiaoyang Qin, Xlng Kong, Yinqing Ma, Bingjie Han, Cairang Zhaxi, Nan Jiang, Peiyu Gao, Xiang Mao, Yuan Ma, Sheng Ding, and Jacob Percey.



Some of our helpful interns, along with Dr. Hu and MCCD staff.

### Summer Programs

#### Kettle Creek for Kids Ages 4 - 6

From June 21 - August 9, this program for young children ages 4-6 will be held Tuesdays from 10—11am. Children will learn about various environmental topics each week (see chart at bottom of page for topics). Cost: \$5/non-member, \$3/EE Center member. (Parents must attend with their child.)

#### **Camps at Kettle Creek**

Our Summer camps at the EE Center offer a unique opportunity for kids to learn more about their natural world. In this time when children are spending less time outside. these camps provide a multitude of learning opportunities under the guidance of trained professionals with years of experience. Hands-on combined activities with the resources of the EE Center provide a safe environment for children interested in learning more about the Poconos.

All camps run Monday – Friday. Late pick-up is available from 3:30–5:30pm for \$50 per week or \$10/day.

#### CitiZen Scientists Ages 11 - 14

June 27-July 1, 8am—3:30pm, \$175/ non-member, \$150/EE Member. Campers will engage in citizen science projects while in the field learning about the ways scientists study nature and analyze data. Topics will focus on forest, field, and pond ecology, birds, reptiles, amphibians, insects, watershed monitoring, and weather.

#### Beautiful Beasts Ages 9 - 12

July 11-15, 8am—3:30pm, \$175/non-member, \$150/EE Member. Come to Kettle Creek to learn awesome facts about Pocono animals. How do they survive? There will be lots of cool critter discoveries.

#### Water We Know Ages 9 - 12

July 25-29, 8am—3:30pm, \$175/non-member, \$150/EE Center member. This camp is all about water. Have fun and learn about water habitats, who lives in them, and how. You might even find yourself spending time in water too!

# Ever-Changing Ecosystems Ages 9 - 12

**August 1-5**, 8am—3:30pm, \$175/non-member, \$150/EE Member. What do plants and animals consider home? Join us on some adventures to find out

#### Wild Wonders Ages 7 - 8

**August 8-12**, 9am—12:30pm, \$90/non-member, \$75/EE Member. This camp is all about discovering the wonders of nature!

#### Winging It Ages 10 - 14

August 8-12, 8am—3:30pm, \$200/non-member, \$175/EE Center member. Come to camp to explore some really cool places right in our backyard. Every day will take campers on a new adventure to a different place.

# Creepy Crawly Critters Ages 9-12

**August 15-19**, 8am—3:30pm, \$175/non-member, \$150/EE Member. Some of the coolest critters we know are super small. Join us and learn about all kinds of creepy crawly critters during this camp.

### Public Bog Walks (Families)

Wednesdays, June 15 - September 7 from 10am–12:30pm. We'll be leading walks through a very unique National Natural Landmark - the Tannersville Bog. Summer is an excellent time to explore the Bog and learn about this unique wetland. Cost: \$6/non-members, \$4/EE Center or Nature Conservancy members and children under 12. Meet at the bog parking lot on Cherry Lane Road. Preregistration is required.

#### Tenth Annual Monroe County Bug Fest (Families)

A festival celebrating insects from 10am—3pm on Saturday, July 9. Displays, activities, games, crafts, live insects, insect safaris, and presentations all day, all about insects! Cost: \$5/child ages 4 - 12. Come dressed as an insect and receive a discount!

# Butterfly Count (Families)

Help count butterflies at Kettle Creek and the Tannersville Bog on Saturday, July 23 from 9:30am - 12:30pm. You'll become part of an ever-growing group of people who call themselves citizen scientists. This event is for anyone interested in counting numbers and species of butterflies in our area for the North American Butterfly Association (NABA). Cost: \$5 of which \$3 goes to NABA to fund the nationwide count. ❖

For more information, please call our office or visit our website at mcconservation.org

### Kettle Creek for Kids Ages 4 - 6

|                | DATE         | TOPIC                                                                                                         |
|----------------|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| June           |              |                                                                                                               |
| Tues.<br>Tues. | 6/21<br>6/28 | Earth Magic Walk—Explore KC with magical activities Being a Bear—What is it like to be a bear in the Poconos? |
| July           |              |                                                                                                               |
| Tues.          | 7/5          | Camouflaged Critters—Learn about animals and their colors                                                     |
| Tues.          | 7/12         | Build a Bug—All about insects and other creepy crawlies                                                       |
| Tues.          | 7/19         | Bird Beak Buffet—Why do birds have different beaks?                                                           |
| Tues.          | 7/26         | Whatever the Weather—How does the weather work?                                                               |
| Augu           | st           |                                                                                                               |
| Tues.          | 8/2          | Hike and Seek at Kettle Creek—Take a discovery hike on and off the trails at KC                               |
| Tues.          | 8/9          | Show 'N Tell—Be a guest Naturalist & share treasures from nature                                              |



### Annual Membership Dinner (continued from cover page)

Those who attended our Annual Members and Friends of Conservation Dinner this year at Trout Lake were treated to an evening of enjoyment, entertainment, fantastic food, and a beautiful, spacious deck for birdwatching along Trout Lake. They also joined us in recognizing individuals and groups for their support of the Environmental Education Center and environmental education (see their picture on front cover).

**2016 Stanley Becker Scholarship Recipient** - Stanley Becker was a long-time member of the EE Center. The Stanley Becker Environmental Resource Scholarship is co-sponsored by the Becker Family and Monroe County Conservation District. It recognizes an outstanding Monroe County high school student who has chosen to pursue an environmental major in college. We are always impressed with the quality of the scholarship applicants. We would like to congratulate Dana Petrosino of Pocono Mountain West High School on being this year's recipient of the Stanley Becker Scholarship. Dana will be attending East Stroudsburg University's Honors Program in the fall to major in marine science. We wish Dana the best of luck in college and her future career!

**2015** Conservation Educator of the Year - Eric Argot of Scotrun is the 2015 Conservation Educator of the Year. Eric, a second grade teacher at Tobyhanna Elementary Center, was recognized for his outstanding work running the TEC Green Team for several years. The team collects paper and plastics to be recycled instead of ending up in the dumpster. As a result, an overflowing dumpster has been reduced to half that amount. He is also in charge of keeping the nature trail at TEC clean of trash and debris. TEC students use the trail to study the natural resources surrounding their school. Monroe County, the Pocono Mountain West School District, and more importantly, its students, are fortunate to have such a dedicated teacher.

**2015 Volunteer of the Year** - Michael Carr of East Stroudsburg first started volunteering with us at the Meesing sugarbush in 2008 as a student at Northampton Community College. Since that time Michael has been a frequent and dependable volunteer with us, assisting in special events such as Bug Fest, birdseed sales, seedling sales, and maple sugaring. Many of Michael's volunteer hours have been spent overseeing parking at the aforementioned events, an underappreciated but important responsibility — we like to think of Michael as Kettle Creek's parking attendant extraordinaire. We greatly appreciate Michael's long -time commitment to Kettle Creek and congratulate him on this award.

**2015 Service Award** - We are pleased to present a Service Award to the Pocono Avian Research Center. Over the years this organization has

### **42nd Annual Monroe County Conservation Camp**



Applications are still being accepted for the Monroe County Conservation Camp scheduled for July 16 -23 at ESU's Stony Acres Facility. This week-long residential camp involves students ages 14 through this year's graduate in a variety of hand-on experiences dealing with conservation and the outdoors in general. The week includes programs such as archery, bird banding, Pocono wildlife, fly-fishing, plus many more. The camp's highlight is a 2-day canoe trip on the Delaware River. Cost for the entire week is \$200 and scholarships are available each year. For more information or to receive an application, please contact Roger Spotts at (570) 629-3061, or rsmccd@ptd.net. 🜣



helped with numerous programs and projects at the EE Center, from their coordination of the MAPS (Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship) bird banding research at Kettle Creek since 2000 to the Saw-Whet Owl banding project they conducted last fall. Their programs have documented the bird populations at Kettle Creek. They have also assisted the Conservation District in getting the Kettle Creek Wildlife Sanctuary designated a Federal Banding Station, and the EE Center can expand on the research and programs offered. We are very grateful for their hard work and support.  $\heartsuit$ 



The Conservation District Board of Directors and Staff congratulate and thank all of our award recipients!

# Monroe County Conservation District's **2nd Annual Photo Contest**



In an effort to support the conservation of our county's natural resources, we feel it is important to allow the public an opportunity to showcase what they feel are Monroe County's finest natural resources.

#### **Contest Rules**

- 1. Contest is open to all amateur photographers of all ages.
- 2. Photograph must display a natural resource of Monroe County, PA.
- Images must be of natural resources in a natural setting, including but not limited to: trees, flowers, woodlands, streams, rivers, farms, conservation practices, wildlife, and similar themes. Photos of people and/or pets will not be accepted.
- 4. Photograph must be your own original work and must have not been previously published in any commercial publication.
- 5. We do not accept digitally or otherwise enhanced or altered photos. Minor adjustments are acceptable. If the judges determine that a photographer has altered his or her photo, they reserve the right to disqualify it.
- 6. In order to ensure anonymous judging, please do not include signatures or watermarks on the photo itself.
- 7. Only one photo may be entered per person.
- 8. MCCD will not be able to return any entry materials. MCCD will not be responsible for incomplete, illegible, unviewable, lost, late, or postage-due entries, all of which will be disqualified.
- 9. Photos must be submitted as color 8" x 10" prints, not mounted or framed, along with a minimum 300 dpi digital format.
- 10. All entries become the property of the Monroe County Conservation District and the District reserves the right to use all photographs in publications for promotional purposes.
- 11. A complete entry form must accompany each photograph submitted.
- 12. All entries are due to the Monroe County Conservation District at 8050 Running Valley Road Stroudsburg, PA 18360 Attn: Alesia Gallo, by September 30, 2016. Digital copies can be sent to agmccd@ptd.net
- 13. Judging will be performed by Monroe County Conservation District Staff and winners will be notified by October 28, 2016. All decisions are final.
- 14. All photographs will be on display in our art gallery from December 3, 2016 through January 31, 2017. An opening reception debuting the display of the photos will be December 3, 2016 from 11am-1pm.
- 15. Twelve winners will be selected and will each receive a free copy of the calendar. Additional calendars will be available for purchase December 3, 2016 with all proceeds going to our environmental education programs in Monroe County.

MONROE COUNTY
CONSERVATION DISTRICT



### **2016 Photo Contest Entry Form**

| Date of Photo (year)        | Photograph taken in         | Township, Monroe County                                                                                                   |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Description of photograph i | n detail                    |                                                                                                                           |  |  |  |
|                             |                             |                                                                                                                           |  |  |  |
|                             |                             | Phone:                                                                                                                    |  |  |  |
| Address:                    | City:                       | State: Zip:                                                                                                               |  |  |  |
| Email:                      |                             |                                                                                                                           |  |  |  |
| I am not currently employed | •                           | than 50% of my income from photography.<br>Bloyed at the Monroe County Conservation Districtory<br>oto from this contest. |  |  |  |
| Signed:                     |                             | Date:                                                                                                                     |  |  |  |
| Parent/Guardian Signature   | (if under 18 years of age): |                                                                                                                           |  |  |  |
| Signed:                     |                             | Date:                                                                                                                     |  |  |  |
| Parent/Guardian Printed Na  | me:                         |                                                                                                                           |  |  |  |



\*\*\*12 talented winners will be chosen to receive a free copy of the calendar as well as the opportunity to have their photo

2016 Calend

featured as a month in the calendar itself!\*\*\*

#### **KETTLE CREEK ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER PUBLIC PROGRAMS**

#### **JUNE**

2016 BioBlitz at the West End Regional Park - 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> - Friday-Saturday - A BioBlitz is designed to be part-contest, part-festival, part-educational event and part-scientific endeavor that will bring together scientists from Monroe County, Academia, MCCD, and the public in a race against time to count the species of plants and animals living on the park's 244 acres in just 24 hours. The public is welcome to come by on Saturday the 18th from 9am - 3pm to help or just learn about the BioBlitz process.

Building closed - 18<sup>th</sup> - Saturday

**Kettle Creek for Kids - 21<sup>st</sup> - Tuesday -** Please see page 4 for topics and more information.

Public Bog Walk - 22<sup>nd</sup> - Wednesday -Join an Environmental Educator 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. Cost: \$6/non-members, \$4/EE and Nature Conservancy members and children under 12. Pre-registration is required and limited. Directions: Route 611, at the light at the Tannersville Inn turn onto Cherry Lane Rd. The bog parking lot is 1.9 miles from 611 on the right.

Pocono Otters - 25<sup>th</sup> - Saturday - Join EE Coordinator Roger Spotts for this informative program on river otters. One of the most playful residents of the Poconos, the otter population has been affected by numerous things over the last 200 years. We will talk otters during this 1-hour program starting at 10am. Cost: \$6/non-members, \$4/children under 12. EE Center members FREE.

Public Bog Walk - 26<sup>th</sup> - Sunday - Join an Environmental Educator at 1pm at the Bog parking lot and take a 2 ½ hour journey into the Bog environment. Please wear appropriate footwear. For more information, please see listing for June 22nd. Pre-registration required and limited.

**Kettle Creek for Kids - 28<sup>th</sup> - Tuesday -** Please see page 4 for topics and more information.

Public Bog Walk - 29th - Wednesday -

This guided walk begins at 10am. Full description please see listing for June 22nd. **Pre-registration required.** 

#### **JULY**

Building closed - 2<sup>nd</sup> - Saturday

Building closed - 4th - Monday - Holiday

**Kettle Creek for Kids - 5<sup>th</sup> - Tuesday -** Please see page 4 for topics and more information.

**Public Bog Walk - 6<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday -** This guided walk begins at 10am. Full description please see listing for June 22nd. **Pre-registration required.** 

Summertime Greenery at the Farm - 8<sup>th</sup> - Friday - Just because Summer has arrived doesn't mean all the flowers are finished blooming. Join KCEEC staff from 10am - 12pm as we highlight the many interesting plant species that are found in the summer forests at Quiet Valley. Please dress to be outside. The walk will begin in front of the Gift Shop. Cost: \$6/ non-members, \$4/EE Center or Quiet Valley members, children under 12 FREE.

**Bugfest** - **9**<sup>th</sup> - **Saturday** - Displays, activities, games, crafts, live insects, insect safaris, and presentations all day, all about insects! Festival runs from 10am - 3pm. Cost: \$5/child ages 4 - 12. Come dressed as your favorite bug and participate in the Insect Fashion Show and receive a discount on admission price!

**Kettle Creek for Kids - 12<sup>th</sup> - Tuesday -** Please see page 4 for topics and more information.

**Public Bog Walk - 13<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday -** This guided walk begins at 10am. Full description please see listing for June 22nd. **Pre-registration required.** 

Life Under A Log - 16<sup>th</sup> - Saturday - It's amazing how many things live in, on, and under rotting logs. Join us as we investigate the communities that are supported by these cool microhabitats, and how they affect the entire forest ecosystem. We will capture some of the underground creatures for a closer look before releasing them. This family program will begin at 10am. Please dress to be outside and dig in the dirt. Cost: \$6/nonmembers, \$4/children under 12. EE Center members FREE.

Art Opening: Andrea Henley - "Nature's Lens" - 16<sup>th</sup> - Saturday - Please see last page for details. Opening Reception: 11am - 1pm.

Public Bog Walk - 16<sup>th</sup> - Saturday - Join an Environmental Educator at 2pm at the Bog parking lot and take a 2 ½ hour journey into the Bog environment. Please wear appropriate footwear. For more information, please see listing for June 22nd. Pre-registration required and limited.

**Kettle Creek for Kids - 19<sup>th</sup> - Tuesday -** Please see page 4 for topics and more information.

Public Bog Walk - 20<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday - This guided walk begins at 10am. Full description please see listing for June 22nd. Pre-registration required.

Josie Porter Farm Meandering - "Insects" - 20<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday - Warm summer days are good for bugs of all kinds. Join us as we sweep net the fields and discover some of the many that are out and about. All of our monthly Josie Porter Farm Meanderings are from 4-6 pm, rain or shine. Please wear comfortable walking shoes and dress to be outside. Walks meet in the farm parking lot on Cherry Valley Rd. Pre-registration is suggested. Cost: \$6/non-members, \$4/EE Center or CSA members, children under 12 FREE.

Butterfly Count - 23<sup>rd</sup> - Saturday - Calling all butterfly enthusiasts—time once again for the annual North American Butterfly Association's (NABA) Butterfly Count. Meet at Kettle Creek at 9:30am to join the fun and help add to the growing body of knowledge on butterfly populations across North America. For more information, contact Darryl Speicher at (570) 629-3061. Cost: \$5 of which \$3 goes to NABA to fund the nationwide count.

Sssnakes Alive! - 23<sup>rd</sup> - Saturday - Learn about the identification and biological roles of the snakes of our area during this always popular program with Environmental Educator Brian Hardiman. Designed for all ages, this 1½ hour program begins at 10am and focuses on local species and includes live snakes and a slide-illustrated talk. Cost: \$6/nonmembers, \$4/children under 12. EE Center members FREE.

Public Bog Walk - 24<sup>th</sup> - Sunday - Join an Environmental Educator at 1pm at the Bog parking lot and take a 2 ½ hour journey into the Bog environment. For more information, please see listing for June 22nd. Pre-registration required and limited.

Continued on next page

#### KETTLE CREEK ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER PUBLIC PROGRAMS

#### JULY Cont'd

**Kettle Creek for Kids - 26<sup>th</sup> - Tuesday -** Please see page 4 for topics and more information.

**Public Bog Walk - 27<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday -** This guided walk begins at 10am. Full description please see listing for June 22nd. **Pre-registration required.** 

American Red Cross Blood Drive at Kettle Creek - 30<sup>th</sup> - Saturday - We are proud to be hosting a blood drive from 9am - 1pm here at Kettle Creek! Please consider saving a life and making a blood donation. 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 or call 1-800-RED CROSS.

#### **AUGUST**

**Kettle Creek for Kids - 2<sup>nd</sup> - Tuesday -** Please see page 4 for topics and more information.

**Public Bog Walk - 3<sup>rd</sup> - Wednesday -**This guided walk begins at 10am. Full description please see listing for June 22nd. **Pre-registration required.** 

Building Open - 6<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 9am-1pm

Art Opening: Melissa Benzinger - "Dancing Vulture Designs" - 6<sup>th</sup> - Saturday - Please see last page for details.

Opening Reception: 11am - 1pm.

**Kettle Creek for Kids - 9<sup>th</sup> - Tuesday -** Please see page 4 for topics and more information.

**Public Bog Walk - 10<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday -** This guided walk begins at 10am. Full description please see listing for June 22nd. **Pre-registration required.** 

Building Open - 13<sup>th</sup> - Saturday 9am-1pm

Public Bog Walk - 13<sup>th</sup> - Saturday - Join an Environmental Educator at 2pm at the Bog parking lot and take a 2 ½ hour journey into the Bog environment. Please wear appropriate footwear. For more information, please see listing for June 22nd. Pre-registration required and limited.

**Public Bog Walk - 17**<sup>th</sup> - **Wednesday -** This guided walk begins at 10am. Full description please see listing for June 22nd. **Pre-registration required.** 

Josie Porter Farm Meandering - "Tree Leaf ID" - 17<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday - A simple lesson in Tree ID using leaves will be featured as we explore the farm. Full description please see listing for July 20th.

"Rewild" Your Body: The Health Benefits of Nature - 20th - Saturday - At this time on our planet, more people are outof-shape, tuned out, and stressed out than ever before—all because many of us are missing something essential to our whole body health and development: connection to the natural world. Many studies have shown the positive health effects of being in or near nature - an increase in mental sharpness, productivity, and feeling invigorated and happier! This program beginning at 10am is designed to use nature to help us reach our optimum wellness. It includes a 45minute outdoor Pilates session for any fitness level (beginners welcome!), led by certified Pilates Instructor/Beachbody Coach Cheryl Balog, as well as a discussion about how people can thrive when exposed to nature on a regular basis. Please bring a mat and wear comfortable clothing to work out in, as well as shoes that are easy to remove. Refreshments will be available afterward. Cost: \$14/ non-members. \$10/EE Center members.

Public Bog Walk - 21<sup>st</sup> - Sunday - Join an Environmental Educator at 1pm at the Bog parking lot and take a 2 ½ hour journey into the Bog environment. Please wear appropriate footwear. For more information, please see listing for June 22nd. Pre-registration required and limited.

**Explore the Weiss Property by the Bog** - 23<sup>rd</sup> - Tuesday - Join us as we explore the meadow habitat at this recently-acquired property with the goldenrod in full bloom. Meet at 6pm at the Bog parking lot. For more information, please see listing for June 22nd. **Pre-registration** required and limited.

Public Bog Walk - 24<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday - This guided walk begins at 10am. Full description please see listing for June 22nd. Pre-registration required.

PARS at KC - 27<sup>th</sup> - Saturday - PARS at KC translates to the Pennsylvania Amphibian and Reptile Survey at the Kettle Creek EE Center. Join Brian Hardiman in this continuing effort to find and document the salamanders, frogs, toads, turtles, and snakes that live at KC. Our findings will be submitted to PARS and become part of the permanent record that will help to determine the status and distribution of the state's amphibians and reptiles. This two-hour program will begin at 10am. Cost: \$6/non-members,

\$4/children under 12. **EE Center members FREE.** 

**Public Bog Walk - 31**<sup>st</sup> - **Wednesday -** This guided walk begins at 10am. Full description please see listing for June 22nd. **Pre-registration required.** 

#### **SEPTEMBER**

Building closed - 3<sup>rd</sup> - Saturday

Building closed - 5<sup>th</sup> - Monday - Holiday

**Public Bog Walk - 7<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday -**This guided walk begins at 10am. Full description please see listing for June 22nd. **Pre-registration required.** 

**Turtles of the Poconos - 10<sup>th</sup> - Saturday -** Join Environmental Educator Karen N. Boyle for a program about turtles. At 10am, come learn about these amazing creatures and perhaps even find one on the Kettle Creek property! Cost: \$6/nonmembers, \$4/children under 12. **EE Center members FREE.** 

Art Opening: TOALC Photo Club - 10<sup>th</sup> - Saturday - Please see last page for details. Opening reception: 11am - 1pm.

Public Bog Walk - 11<sup>th</sup> - Sunday - Join an Environmental Educator at 1pm at the Bog parking lot and take a 2 ½ hour journey into the Bog environment. Please wear appropriate footwear. For more information, please see listing for June 22nd. Pre-registration required and limited

**Public Bog Walk - 14<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday -** This guided walk begins at 1pm. Full description please see listing for June 22nd. **Pre-registration required.** 

Full Moon Bog Walk - 16<sup>th</sup> - Friday - Explore the bog under the light of a full moon. The walk begins at 6:30 p.m. and participants should bring a flashlight. For more information, please see listing for June 22nd. Pre-registration required and limited.

Wildlife Detectives - 17<sup>th</sup> - Saturday - The mystery of what lives around your house or along your favorite hiking trail will be unveiled as we discuss the techniques for becoming a wildlife detective. This 2-hour program beginning at 10am will be a hands-on look into solving these fascinating mysteries. The program is designed for people ages 8 on up and will be conducted on the trails at Kettle Creek. Cost: \$6/nonmembers, \$4/children under 12. EE Center members FREE.

### Water Ways

#### New Watershed Specialist Joins the Team

My name is Annie Mikol, and I am excited to introduce myself as the new Watershed Specialist for the Conservation District. I grew up in Wind Gap and spent much of my childhood romping through streams of Northeast PA. Through high school I participated in many excellent programs such as Conservation School



and Envirothon and I found my love of watershed science doing stream studies along the Little Bushkill. I then attended Lafayette College,

majoring in engineering studies and environmental studies. My focus in particular was aquatic ecosystem science and nutrient dynamics in my local watershed.

After graduating I began my career at Philadelphia Water in the Office of Watersheds where I worked on their green infrastructure program called Green City, Clean Waters. In Philadelphia, green infrastructure is being used as a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable measure to promote infiltration and evapotranspiration of stormwater to mimic a more natural hydrologic cycle. The program began to address Philadelphia's issues with combined sewer overflows (CSOs) where untreated wastewater would directly overflow from the combined storm and sanitary sewer systems during storm events into the city's

streams and rivers. At PWD I was involved in the inspection and maintenance of green infrastructure which are critical components in ensuring sites are performing as designed.

Overall I am eager to return to the area and work with local citizens on addressing their watershed concerns. I am so excited to be working on a variety of projects to protect Monroe County's water resources and I hope to share more of my knowledge about green infrastructure in the future. Please contact me at ammccd@ptd.net to discuss your watershed related concerns, project ideas, and for technical assistance. I am eager to meet you all and am looking forward to working with you in the near future. \$\frac{1}{2}\$

### Monroe County Water Quality Study

Monroe County is unique to the state of Pennsylvania in that a vast majority of the waterways within the county are considered special protection waters. Special protection waters, designated as High Quality (HQ) or Exceptional Value (EV), are the highest designations assigned to streams, and are a direct reflection of the overall health of the aquatic ecosystem being studied. To qualify as a HQ or EV designation, the stream must meet strict criteria related to water chemistry and/or their biological communities. Water chemistry testings must exceed a specified threshold for each parameter studied, and/ or a high quality macroinvertebrate community, sampled in accordance with the Environmental Protection Agency's Rapid Bioassessment Protocol for Use in Streams and Rivers, is needed to be designated HQ or EV.

Since the study originated in 1985, The Monroe County Planning Commission in partnership with the Monroe County Conservation District, Brodhead Watershed Association, and many other agencies have collected 28 years of long-term data related to the physical and chemical characteristics of streams and rivers throughout Monroe County. Historically, water chemistry, in-stream macro-invertebrates, flow rate, and habitat assessments were collected/ performed to cover all areas needed to assess streams for attaining their water quality designations. The collection of data over time helps to show trends and patterns within the aquatic ecosystem, and how changes in the measured parameters can be related to changes occurring within the watershed.

Test sites are selected each year for the study by a team of individuals from the agencies listed above. Sites are targeted for selection based on many different criteria including the number of years of previous data, funding through grants, potential problem sites - based on multiple factors, and potential upgrade of water quality designation via petition, amongst other factors.

The collection of data for the 2016 study was completed in the beginning of May 2016, with publication of the 2015 study results now available. Any persons interested in reading the results of the study can do so on our website or at <a href="https://www.monroecountypa.gov/Dept/Planning/Pages/DocumentsForms.aspx">www.monroecountypa.gov/Dept/Planning/Pages/DocumentsForms.aspx</a> or contact the Monroe County Planning Commission to obtain a paper copy. <a href="https://www.monroecountypa.gov/Dept/Planning/Pages/DocumentsForms.aspx">www.monroecountypa.gov/Dept/Planning/Pages/DocumentsForms.aspx</a>



#### **Envirothon Results...**

#### **High School**

### The Secondary Succession Team Succeeded

The High School Envirothon on May 6<sup>th</sup> was a dreary day in the Poconos but here at Kettle Creek there were lots of high energy students vying for the title of first place. The Secondary Succession team from Pleasant Valley High School took the prize, the first place prize! Ryan Rimple (Captain), **Nicolette** Sonmez. Gabe Schaefer, Sophia Hochfeld and Gina Bongiovanni won with a score of 375 out of 500 to take home the coveted "Enviro-owl" traveling trophy. Taking home the second place trophy was a team from Pocono Mt. East, the Veloci-Raptors, with a score of 369. Out of the Box Turtles is the name of the team from Pocono Mt. West that took home the third place trophy with a score of 334.

Envirothon teams of five members each are tested in five different areas of environmental knowledge. The Secondary Succession team were the high scorers in three of the five areas: Wildlife, Aquatics, and Forestry. The Velici-Raptors from Pocono Mt. East were high scorers in the Current Issue - "Invasive Species: A Challenge to the Environment, Economy, and Society." The Pork-U-Fines from Pocono Mt. West were the high scorers in Soils.

Six Monroe County high schools competed in the Monroe County Envirothon: Stroudsburg, Pocono Mountain West, Pocono Mountain East, Pleasant Valley, Evergreen Community Charter School and East Stroudsburg South. Teams are trained by a Teacher/Advisor from their school. The training is intense with not only memorization and identification



Winners of the Monroe County High School Envirothon, "Secondary Succession" of Pleasant Valley. From left: Gabe Schaefer, Sophia Hochfeld, Ryan Rimple (Captain), Nicolette Sonmez, Gina Bongiovanni, and their advisor Maricatherine Garr.

but also critical thinking.

An added bonus at the competition is the opportunity students have to interact with conservation professionals from all areas of expertise: Foresters, Wildlife Conservation Officers, Water Conservation Officers. Soil Scientists. Environmental Educators and, this year, because of the Current Issue, Kathleen Sandt, from the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area! Although we hope that some Envirothon students go on to pursue careers in Conservation, we also hope that those who pursue careers in Engineering, Construction, Business, Public Service, etc. will take their Envirothon -inspired environmental ethic with them.

A big thank you goes out to the Kettle Creek Environmental Fund (KCEF) who generously supports the Envirothon competition. They also funded *Secondary Succession's* trip to the state competition at Susquehanna University. Thank you KCEF!

The State competition is tough, a

lot tougher than the local, but the *Secondary Succession* team represented Monroe County well, earning 9th place out of the 67 teams competing. They performed especially well in their Oral Presentation regarding Invasive Species. Congratulations to the *Secondary Succession* team!

#### **Junior Envirothon**

Kettle Creek EE Center also hosted the Junior Envirothon competitions on May 12 for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders, and on May 13 for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. Competing teams from area schools were tested on their knowledge of the Pocono environment in four categories: Animals, Trees, Ponds, and Current Issue - Invasive Plants.

The overall first place winner for the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade competition was the *Crazy Creative Chipmunks* from Clear Run Intermediate School. The winning team members were Annmarie Ong, Stephanie Freire, Emily Londono, Jessica Sehn, and Mia Douglas. Receiving the overall second place trophy was Clear Run Intermediate

School's Fighting Red Efts.

The overall first place trophy in the and 8<sup>th</sup> grade competition went to the Home School's Nature's Minions Winning team. members were Teri Salmon, **Ambrose** Cavalier, Morgan Weitz. Halev Weitz



Weitz, Haley Weitz "Crazy Creative Chipmunks" from Clear Run Intermediate and Christie Conroy. School, winners of the 5th and 6th grade Junior Envirothon.

The 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade second place trophy was awarded to Pocono Mountain West Junior High School's *Completely Irrelephant* team.

The Kettle Creek EE Center would like to congratulate and thank all of the participating students, teachers, and advisors at this year's Junior Envirothon. Participating schools were Swiftwater Intermediate School, Tobyhanna Elementary Center, Clear Run Intermediate School, Pocono Home School, Pocono Mtn. West Junior High, Pocono Mtn. East Junior

High, Evergreen Community Charter School, Pleasant Valley Middle School, and the Home School group. Thanks again to the KCEF for sponsoring both Junior Envirothons.



Home School Team "Nature's Minions," winners of the 7th and 8th grade Junior Envirothon.

### Project FeederWatch Embrace the winter. Count feeder birds for science!

The 15<sup>th</sup> season of Project FeederWatch was recently completed at KCEEC. Coordinated by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, Project FeederWatch is a winter survey of birds that visit feeders at locations throughout North America. The data compiled help scientists monitor the distribution, abundance, and move-

KCEEC extends a huge thank you to the 2015-2016 Project FeederWatch volunteers: Bob Andersen, Ellen Davis, and Susan Pecota. Their stellar effort during the official count period from November through March produced a total of 20 spe-

ments of winter bird populations.

cies of birds seen at the Kettle Creek Numbers of individuals were also recorded each count day and the Dark-eyed Junco for the 15<sup>th</sup> straight season was the most abundant FeederWatch species, topping out at 55 individuals seen on a late-January day! The other nineteen species of birds recorded consisted of the 'usual suspects' of common wintertime feeder birds. And for the second winter in a row, Pine Siskins visited the KC feeders and added some variety to the counts. Pine Siskins are a northern finch that moves south into our region on an infrequent basis.

For more information, contact Brian Hardiman at bhmccd@ptd.net or visit www.feederwatch.org. •

### The Future of Cover Cropping

In Pennsylvania, it is typically difficult to get a cover crop fully established after the harvest season and before the quick onset of winter. Cover crops help cut fertilizer costs, reduce the need for herbicides and pesticides, improve crop yields by enhancing soil health, conserve soil moisture, and also prevent soil erosion. With all of that in mind, researchers at Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences have developed a piece of machinery, called an interseeder, that makes it possible to plant cover crops in standing row crops earlier in the season, so that they are already established after the cash crops are harvested. This eliminates the need to plant late in the season and improves your chances of cover crop success.

The Monroe County Conservation District is working in collaboration with Lackawanna, Susquehanna, and Wayne County Districts, as well as Penn State Extension Service, on providing an interseeder demonstration in all four counties. The Districts will provide photo documentation throughout the growing season and is planning to hold two educational workshops in the fall to review how the interseeder performed.

For more information about the interseeder including where and when the demonstrations will take place, contact Resource Conservation Specialist, Matt Giambra at MCCD at 570-629-3060 or mgmccd@ptd.net. \cdot\text{\$\Omega}\$



#### Dirt, Gravel, and Low Volume Road Program Update

The Conservation District held a spring equipment demonstration/workshop on Freeman Tract Road in conjunction with Middle Smithfield Township on May 4, 2016. After being rained out on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, the weather cooperated and the moisture content in the gravel road material was just right for working with the power rake box. The wet weather also kept the dust down for the turbine blower demonstration.

Middle Smithfield Township acquired a power rake box for routine surface maintenance of their gravel roads.

The power rake box mounts on a skid steer and has a milling type drum which rotates at high speed to churn and remix the gravel surface material. Carbide cutter tips on the drum are able to chew into the compacted



Above: Roadside swale before Power Blower. Below: Roadside swale after Power Blower.



Driving Surface Aggregate (DSA) and respread it behind the drum. The material is then re-compacted with a roller and is just like new. The power rake is able to remove small potholes and wash boarding, but does not reshape or shift material side to side. We deemed it superb for light surface maintenance.



Middle Smithfield Township's Power Rake Box in action.

Also demonstrated were two industrial size wind makers. Commonly used on golf courses (and race tracks) for clearing debris, we put these two blowers to use clearing leaves and sticks from the roadside swale. This is in lieu of grading the ditches, which disturbs the surface leading to increased erosion, and generates spoil material which is harder to dispose of these days. While the blower doesn't remove high volumes of traction material, it does clear out the leaves, even when wet, and the adjacent road bank as well. The Middle Smithfield Township crew showed two blowers: one pulled behind a golf cart, the other a 3 point hitch mount. Both worked well for clearing the sides of the road.

Stay tuned for future workshops on gravel driveway maintenance and motor grader applications in Environmentally Sensitive Road Maintenance. 🌣

#### **District Assists BWA in Developing Rain Gardens**

Anyone dining recently at the Sarah Street Grill in Stroudsburg may have noticed a new landscape feature at the restaurant—a shallow depression with plants, inlet, and a discharge pipe. This new feature is called a rain garden and as you take a look at new projects being developed in Monroe County, you will start to see more of these small landscape depressions.

Rain gardens are small, depressed areas (12-18" deep) which collect stormwater runoff and perform some pretty important functions. The first is to infiltrate stormwater back into the ground, which in turn raises groundwater levels and base flows in streams. Higher base flows in our streams mean a lower stream temperature, which supports a wide range of species, cluding naturally-reproducing trout.

Most of Monroe County's streams are designated as Exceptional Value High Quality Cold Water Streams. Infiltrating and cooling the water is critical to support these species in our streams.

The second function is the filtration of pollutants from developed areas, such as parking lots. Parking lots collect deposits of salt, grime, oils, and other pollutants from our vehicles. When it rains, this "first flush" of runoff contains high concentrations of these pollutants. The rain garden's mixture of soil, compost, and native water-tolerant vegetation filters these pollutants.

The Monroe County Conservation District has been working in collaboration with the Brodhead Watershed Association (BWA) to develop rain gardens in various locations within Stroudsburg, East Stroudsburg, and Stroud Township. These areas are the most urbanized within the county, which creates higher levels of potential pollutants to the streams and temperature increases from runoff entering the streams. The Conservation District provides the design services for BWA for the development of the rain gardens, including site selections, garden sizing, and guidance and recommendations during construction. BWA has installed rain gardens to date at the Sarah Street Grill and the East Stroudsburg High School, where the students maintain the garden as an educational experience and real world laboratory. Several other

rain gardens are in the works and coming soon. 🌣

> Installing Sarah Street Grill's Rain Garden. Photo courtesy of BWA



#### Dear Members and Friends,

I hope you have had the chance to check out our new and improved website at www.mcconservation.org. We are still finalizing the site but you'll find more information about all of our programs as well as an easier-to-use format. Look for more photos and videos of the critters and happenings at the EE Center in the coming weeks.

This newsletter edition contains some of the familiar topics along with an increased emphasis on Monroe County resource management. Our technical staff is doing new and exciting things to ensure the protection of our resources and we are making an effort to bring you updated information on these important programs concerning stormwater, dirt and gravel roads, watershed management, and much more. Please remember that our website will now offer more details about all of our programs and a comprehensive schedule of events. At any time, please contact our office for additional information on all the things we do here at the Conservation District. \sigma

#### **Monroe County Conservation District Board Members and Staff**

### Join the Costa Rica Birding Adventure!

February 3 - 14, 2017

Only the size of West Virginia, the Central American country of Costa Rica boasts an incredibly rich diversity of birds—over 800 species have been recorded there. Journey south with Brian Hardiman to enjoy spectacular birds such as the Resplendent Quetzal and Scarlet Macaw while soaking up the tropical warmth. Costa Rica is also home to a great variety of colorful tanagers, over 50 species of hummingbirds, and many other equally impressive birds. We are also likely to see howler and capuchin monkeys, sloths, coatimundis, and crocodiles. This will be Brian's 4th trip to Costa Rica and 14th overall to the American tropics. For details and an itinerary for the trip, contact Brian at (570)629-3061 or bhmccd@ptd.net.



#### A Warm Welcome to our New Members!

Elizabeth Miller, East Stroudsburg Dean and Susan Rosa, E. Stroudsburg Rachele Cooper Family, Del. Water Gap Bonnie McManus Family, Stroudsburg Julia Saeger, Gilbert Kerry and Barb Teats, Stroudsburg

Julia Karhan, East Stroudsburg Sarah Kranick, East Stroudsburg Carly Martino, Effort Ilch Family, East Stroudsburg Logan and Riley Wasdyke, Effort Broccoli Family, Saylorsburg

### **Attention EE Center Members: Mark your Calendars NOW!**





#### **2016 Maple Sugaring Season Recap**

Wow, what a difference a year makes in the sugarbush. While 2016 was a very successful season, it was a short one. Due to the warmer temperatures this winter and the quick warm-up in March, our season ended on March 11. Compare that to last year when we were still making syrup in early April! We did manage to produce 29 gallons of syrup between February 9 and March 11. Our Public and Scout Days had great turnouts and our tree sponsor program had over 100 maple trees sponsored again this year. would like to thank all of our tree sponsors as well as our hardworking volunteers who help make the Maple sugaring programs possible. We look forward to what 2017 brings in the Meesing sugarbush. ♥

| Kettle Creek Environmental Education Center  DATE |    |        |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------------------------|----|--------|--|--|--|
| Make check payable to:                            |    |        |  |  |  |
| Monroe County Conservation                        |    |        |  |  |  |
| District (MCCD)                                   |    |        |  |  |  |
| 8050 Running Valley F                             |    | d      |  |  |  |
| Stroudsburg, PA 183                               |    |        |  |  |  |
| Student                                           | \$ | 10.00  |  |  |  |
| Individual                                        | \$ | 15.00  |  |  |  |
| Family                                            | \$ |        |  |  |  |
| Senior (65+)                                      | \$ | 10.00  |  |  |  |
| Organization                                      | \$ | 50.00  |  |  |  |
| Lifetime Individual                               | \$ | 500.00 |  |  |  |
| Lifetime Family                                   | \$ | 750.00 |  |  |  |
| NAME                                              |    |        |  |  |  |
| ADDRESS                                           |    |        |  |  |  |
| CITY                                              |    |        |  |  |  |
| STATE ZIP                                         |    |        |  |  |  |
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8050 RUNNING VALLEY ROAD STROUDSBURG, PA 18360

TELEPHONE: 570-629-3060 FAX: 570-629-3063

E-MAIL: monroecd@ptd.net WEBSITE: mcconservation.org

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Conserving Natural Resources for Our Future



The American Red Cross will be holding a **blood drive** at Monroe County Conservation District!
Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup> from 9am-1pm For information, call Barbara at (570) 629-3060.

To register, please visit the website or call the phone number below.

redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS

#### 2016 Kettle Creek Art Gallery Schedule

June 1 - 30: Pocono Photo Club - "Natural Monroe" - Our photos reflect the natural beauty of Monroe County as seen by our diverse group of photographers. Additional images can be viewed on our Facebook page where all are invited to join us in sharing images from the world around us. Opening Reception: Saturday, June 4, 11am - 1pm.

### July 1 - 31: Andrea Henley "Nature's Lens" - Andrea's passion

Lens" - Andrea's passion for insect and macro photography has led her to capture the small, beautiful moments in nature, displayed in this exhibit. Opening Reception: Saturday, July 16, 11am - 1pm.



August 1 - 31: Melissa Benzinger "Dancing Vulture Designs" - Ever in love with Pocono wildlife, Melissa strives to create miniature, woolly likenesses of our creatures great and small. Featuring a mixed media bonanza, with more needle-felted local wildlife, shadow boxes, woodburnings, and more. Opening Reception: Saturday, August 6, 11am - 1pm.

September 1 - 30: TOALC Photo Club
The Photo Club of the Older Adult
Learning Center is composed of a
variety of individuals drawn together
by their enjoyment of photography.
Artistry is expressed through diverse
subjects and different photographic
techniques. Opening Reception: Saturday, September 10, 11am - 1pm.

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#### Our New Website is *Finally* Here!

If you haven't visited yet, be sure to check out our "virtual home" at <u>mcconservation.org</u>. We hope that you'll find our newly-renovated website is more organized and easier to navigate. It features a more interactive calendar of events, a newsletter sign-up opportunity (we can email your newsletter to save paper!), permit applications, open records



requests, and more. We are continually updating our website's content and capabilities and soon hope to offer the option to pay for membership, events, and more with a credit card. Go bookmark it now and check it out!