



PEEC
Pocono Environmental
Education Center



Autumnal Equinox 2014

Seasons

A Quarterly Publication to Advance Environmental Literacy

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**Pocono Environmental
Education Center**

538 Emery Road
Dingmans Ferry, PA
570 • 828 • 2319

peec@peec.org
www.peec.org

Oh, DEER!

By Mariann Oswald

Don't they seem to be everywhere? Deer I mean. Well, they are. There are thirty-eight different species of deer that live in North and South America, Europe, Asia and Africa. There are no deer in Australia or Antarctica, though. Around our neck of the woods, white-tail deer are the norm. White-tailed deer are the smallest in the North American deer family.

I thought you might like a few fun facts about those cute little Bambi's. Some things I already knew, like males are "bucks", females are "does", and babies are "fawns" and are born with white spots. Somewhere in my youth I learned that the spots were for protection, kind of a natural camouflage that disappears after one year. But I didn't know that fawns are up and walking just 20 minutes after they are born! They have hoofs with four toes and like to be fed 6 or more times per day, sticking close to their mother for the first year.



Deer are also born with a great sense of hearing, able to hear higher frequency sounds than mere humans. They can move their ears in any direction without moving their heads. Their other senses are also excellent. I guess you've probably noticed that the deer's eyes are on the sides of their head. That makes it possible for them to have a 310 degree view. Not quite the same as having eyes in the back of their heads like most moms, but close. Deer can't focus on things up close, though. The deer's sense of smell can detect predators from long distances. Did you ever notice that deer lick their noses often? That's to keep them moist and improve their olfactory reception. (That means a wet nose can smell scents better than a dry nose.) Speaking of scents, fawns are born with no scent. How sweet.

With such long slim legs I would have thought deer would have a hard time swimming. Fact is deer are excellent swimmers. Their strands of fur are hollow which prevents them from drowning. It also insulates the deer from extremes of temperature. Deer are incredible champion jumpers, up to ten feet high. They run up to 40 mph. Add these facts to their zig-zag running technique and you begin to understand how they survive so well.

Deer are the only mammals to regenerate bone structure year after year. The male deer start to grow antlers when they are a year old. They are called deciduous antlers because they grow during spring and shed during winter. In the spring, antlers are covered with a soft velvet skin that becomes hard during the fall. Medicinal use of velvet deer antler is documented as far back as 168 BC, over 2000 years ago. Deer antlers are the fastest growing living tissue on earth, growing up to one inch per day! I guess it's a good thing they shed their antlers in the winter, since deer can live up to 20 years.

Anyone who tries to plant a garden can tell you that deer have a territory. Under most circumstances, deer won't leave their territory, even if they are starving. They eat grass,

Continued on page 2

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PEEC Seasons is a Quarterly Publication of
the Pocono Environmental Education Center
Marketing and Development Office.

Design & Layout Niki Jones Agency, Inc.
Editor Janine Morley

Contributing Writers

Flo Mauro, Mariann Oswald, Jeff Rosalsky,
Allison Owczarczak, Sheri Bone, Andrea Ace,
Derek Scott, Lea Della Vecchia, James Maloney

Contributing Photographers

PEEC Staff Photos, Mariann Oswald,
James Maloney, Derek Scott

Message from the Executive Director



Science education and research has been at the cornerstone of the environmental education work PEEC has done over the past 42 years. PEEC's environmental education programs have served as the springboard for further scientific inquiry by the thousands of students PEEC educates every year.

Over the past several years, and hopefully for many years into the future, PEEC has enhanced its research offerings and opportunities for students with a strong interest in math, science and engineering. We have conducted solar panel workshops, co-sponsored engineering competitions, offered gifted science summer programs and had high school students collaborate with research scientists on water quality research in the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area.

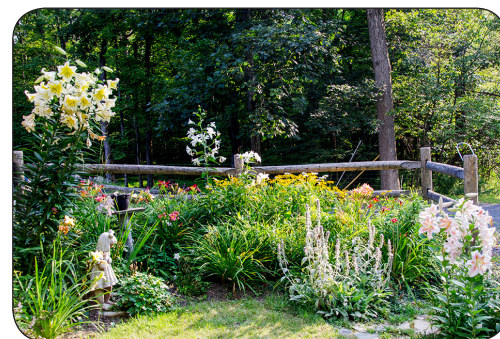
Our goal is to actively engage middle and high school students with college professors, graduate students and other researchers and have them take part in real ongoing research. The scientific community is competing with medicine, law and business for the best and the brightest students. PEEC endeavors to inspire and to motivate these students with the hope that they will pursue university degrees and careers in science.

While almost everyone who attends a PEEC program comes away changed, for some the experience is life changing. In recent years, we have had numerous PEEC program participants return with other groups as mentors, counselors and instructors. It is gratifying to learn that their experiences at PEEC had a major influence on their college majors and career choices.

Oh, DEER!

Continued from Page 1

leaves, stems, shoots, berries, herbs, acorns, mushrooms fruit, and crops. Deer are particularly fond of flowers, including but not limited to Iris, Lilies, Bee Balm and Lamb's Ear. Oh, you thought they were "deer resistant". Nope. They loved every one I planted, until I put up an 8 foot fence. Now my garden looks like this. Deer eat only one-third of their regular diet in the winter, mostly because they store up reserves and are less active. They still love gardens, though, so don't take the fence back down just because it's winter.



Winter, spring, summer or fall, deer are an ongoing problem when it comes to vehicles. According to the Commonwealth of PA, in 2012, 115,571 deer were involved in roadway collisions in PA alone! That means each motorist in PA had a 1 in 97 chance of colliding with a deer in that one year period. PA had the great distinction of being #1 in the country. That year (2012), there were about 1.5 million vehicles nationally damaged by deer, the cost to insurance companies topping \$1 billion. Oh, boy... I mean oh, deer. And hunters think they are dwindling in numbers. Not on the roadways, they're not. And, with an average adult weighing in at 110 to 300 lbs., ouch.

So, I leave it up to you to decide whether they are cute little Bambi's, garden pests, dinner guests at our game dinner or insurance risks. In any case, I still think they are adorable... on the other side of the fence.

www.findfast.org/animals-deer.htm
animalstime.com/deer-facts-for-kids-facts-about-deer-for-kids

naturemappingfoundation.org/natmap/facts/white-tailed_deer_k6.html
bestfunfacts.com/deer.html



Crazy Hat Day with the Tadpoles



Campers showing off a survival shelter



Story time with the Tadpoles and Polliwogs



Artistic resident Lisa Facciponti working with Wet and Slimy campers

Summer Day Camp News & Notes

PEEC's summer day camp was a great success this year. Campers spent most of their time hiking, playing games, and learning about nature.

One addition to our camp this summer was a new age group, the Polliwogs. Polliwogs are children going into first and second grade. This age group was very popular and will continue in future summers.

Another new addition to our summer camp program was an artistic resident. Lisa Facciponti, professional story teller and artist, spent three weeks working with our Wet and Slimy and Junior Naturalist campers. Lisa helped these campers create an artistic project related to the theme of their week. Some of the projects included shadow puppets, mud paintings, and natural art pieces.

As in past summers, PEEC's day camp partnered with Easter Seals Growing Green, a residential camp that runs at PEEC during the summer. Just a few of the activities both groups did together were gardening in our hoop house and canoe garden, a Lorax craft activity, and a weekly ice cream social.



Senior Naturalist campers preparing for a canoe trip

None of the great moments you see in the pictures on this page would have been possible without PEEC's dedicated staff and volunteers. Thanks to everyone's hard work, we had an amazing season and hope to see everyone back next summer.



Wet and Slimy campers reading "The Lorax" with Easter Seals Growing Green



Tadpoles exploring PEEC's diverse pond life



Fire building with the Junior Naturalist Campers - the object is to light and tend to a fire that will be tall enough to burn through a string



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Golf Awards

Women:

Team: Pat McGarrick, Pat Moore,
Betsy Cuneo, Kris Leshanski

Longest Drive: Rhea Lurhs

Closest to the Pin: Joan Taylor

Men:

Team: Brian O'Hare, Brian Reilly,
Bill Gehris, Jim Gehris

Longest Drive: 'Abe' Skier

Closest to the Pin: Mike Taylor

Senior Men:

Longest Drive: Chris Uglay

Mixed:

Team: Karen & Chris James,
Laura Jo & Ronnie O'Hare

Most Honest: Barbara &
Tom Brummer, Cyndie &
Bob Brummer



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Sci-Q 2014

By James Maloney

How do you measure the success of a camp? Is it when you hear a child say this was the best camp ever? Is it when students break down their personal boundaries and readily accept challenges in difficult situations without hesitation? Is it getting a child so comfortable that they don't want to end activities that they were nervous to even begin? Or maybe measuring success is by a show of hands of how many would be interested in participating in the same activity next year?

If you were to measure the success of the 2014 Sci-Q camp by any of these measures they would come back with a resounding successful rating. By all accounts this year's camp was a great success; everyone made friends, participated in high level research activities, took on a key role within a team dynamic, and most importantly, had fun!

This was my first year working with the Sci-Q kids and they did not cease to amaze me. Their personal knowledge, backgrounds, and interesting tidbits of information all week kept me learning. Their enthusiasm for science and their desire to learn are unparalleled. These students were academic sponges which you couldn't hold down or hold back. Their energy level remained high all week even though they were active from 7:00am to 10:00pm and that was just when we sent them to their cabins, it didn't necessarily mean they were asleep right away.

So what types of activities were these advanced kids partaking in? From fossil hunting, DNA extractions, polymerase chain reactions and gel electrophoresis to canoeing into the Water Gap, touring the Sterling Hill Mine looking for rare minerals, and learning and perfecting the chemistry behind the art of tie-dye. Then in the evenings the students took on challenges of constructing air conditioners from simple everyday materials and building canoes which could navigate the pond with just cardboard, plastic bags and duct tape.

I don't think I could isolate a more significant moment for me that showed me just how important an experience like this is to a child then what I experienced during our canoe trip. As we pulled up to the river, early in the morning and the sun was just starting to really provide some heat on your skin, one student said to me that he was pretty nervous to be canoeing. I often take for granted how accessible the activity is for me, but this student was not feeling comfortable about it and I



decided to ease their concern by inviting him into my boat for the paddle from Smithfield Beach to Kittatiny Point. As we rounded the final turn on the trip I explained how this was the end and we were almost done, to which I got the response, "I really wish it wasn't over and I wish we could keep going." I know it sounds cliché, but this individual went from being close to petrified of the river to wanting more in a matter of hours. That was only one student, on one day; I can only imagine the multitude of similar moments the kids experienced over the week.

Some of the greatest group memories were when the students were constructing their projects. Using various concepts of physics and chemistry students created air conditioners which were able to lower the air temperature by up to eight degrees Fahrenheit. Or the construction of a canoe using only cardboard, 2 rolls of duct tape, 2 garbage bags, and 2 milk jugs that allowed them to paddle out and retrieve puzzle pieces for a tangram which they would solve as a group. Some groups were able to construct boats which propelled them out and back and then they assembled the difficult puzzle in mind boggling times. Everything these students did made me more cognizant of their abilities and reaffirmed to me how exceptional these students are.

This year in Sci-Q we accepted 21 gifted and talented students from 7th – 11th grade. These students hailed from New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania and all of them returned to their homes with a broader knowledge of the sciences and hopefully inspired to make a difference in the world. It is programs like this that only occur for a short time and with a limited number of students that leaves a lasting impression on both me and the student. I hope there are many more Sci-Q camps to come.



It's A Bird! It's A Plane! No, It's The Skypod!

Lea Della Vecchia

The municipal solid waste in the United States contains approximately 31% plastics—76,760 thousand tons per year. Less than half of this plastic is recycled. These plastics make up about 13% of the municipal solid waste stream by weight, but they make up 20% of the volume. Plastic bottles take between 500 and 1000 years to breakdown. There are many possibilities to save these bottles from taking up space eternally in our landfills. We can recycle them. We can re-use them for a variety of projects. Or, we can create art.

In an effort to raise awareness about the amount of plastic bottles we use every day—and their permanent nature, PEEC and artist Sasha Zhitneva are working together to create the “Skypod”.

The Skypod is an approximately 10 foot tall spherical structure made of PVC tubing and chicken wire that will go on top of and below the roof of the main building. The plastic bottles will be wired to the structure. It has the effect of a plastic asteroid that has gotten stuck in the roof.

Sasha is originally from Moscow, Russia. She moved to the United States and began a career in graphic design. Eventually, she began to design pieces of architectural stained glass. She



has since created beautiful works of kilnformed glass art, which have been showcased in galleries in the United States and abroad. More information and pictures of Sasha's art can be found at www.szd.net.

This project is going to require a lot of soda bottles. To help speed the two liter bottle collection process along, I have been making frequent trips to the Sussex County Municipal Utilities Authority (SCMUA) to collect them. These trips usually end with several big garbage bags of bottles—I get a lot from where the public drop off their recycling at the Recycling Drop Off location and then head over to where recycling is collected from communities and businesses and finish up there. The trip is a treasure hunt—to find as many clear two liter bottles amidst the rest of the recycling as possible. On occasion, I can enlist others to help in my hunt—and everyone leaves feeling just as accomplished as I do.

Though we make these regular trips to the recycle center, PEEC can definitely use donations of two liter soda bottles. We predict our Skypod will use approximately 2000 soda bottles—and we're only about a quarter of the way there. Should you be willing to donate any two liter bottles to this project, we are always accepting donations—just bring them to our main building!

References

<http://students.arch.utah.edu/courses/Arch4011/>

[Recycling%20Facts1.pdf](http://www.benefits-of-recycling.com/)

<http://www.benefits-of-recycling.com/recyclingplasticbottles/>



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FALL PHOTOGRAPHY

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Reduce Your Pet's Carbon Paw Print

By Allison Owczarczak

Many of us do our best to limit our impacts on this planet, but have you thought about your pet's impact?

Here are a few things to think about regarding ecologically responsible pet ownership:

1. Spay or neuter your pet. Help reduce the amount of unwanted animals in shelters or that are turned out on the street.
2. Adopt from a shelter. According to the Humane Society, in the U.S., there are an estimated 6-8 million homeless animals entering animal shelters every year. Barely half of these animals are adopted. Tragically, the rest are euthanized.
3. Food matters. Animal protein can be replaced by plant protein, which requires substantially less water and energy to produce. Soy-based proteins are a common pet food ingredient, and their production is estimated to be 6 to 20 times more efficient in terms of fossil fuel requirements.
4. Watch your pet's weight. The American pet on average gets 20% more food than it needs. Not only is the extra weight not good for its health, but that's 20% of food wasted.
5. Pick up after your pet. Pet waste that is left can mix with rainfall and snowmelt and travel to storm drains and surface waters causing pollution and an increased risk of disease. It's great to bag up the waste, but remember, you need to carry it out of the woods and to a trash can. There has been an increase in the number of plastic bags full of dog waste on the PEEC trails and other trails in the park.
6. Keep your dog on a leash and on the trail. There are some dogs that love to chase a myriad of animals, even in play. But wild animals need to save this energy for survival; this is the time of year when they should be building their fat reserves for winter, not burning calories from a chase by Fido. Keeping your dog on a leash will also reduce the risk of an encounter with a venomous snake.
7. Keep your cat inside. Cats kill for pleasure and often don't even eat what they catch.
8. Research, research, research. Find out how long a type of pet will live whether it's a parrot, a box turtle that will most likely out live you, or that cute bunny you bought your child but now they can't take to college. Also ask yourself if you can afford the pet's bills if it develops a lasting condition such as diabetes or chronic ear infections.
9. Never release a pet in the wild. As an example, red-eared slider turtles that are found in pet stores are not native to this region of America and out-compete native turtles. Pet store rabbits, hamsters, guinea pigs etc. will not survive a winter in the wild.



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WOW – What a Wonderful Summer!

By Sheri Bone

After a year's hiatus, the Women on the Water (WOW) program was up and running again in full swing! (Or should I say full paddle?) Due to generous funding from the William Penn Foundation, a total of 42 girls and their chaperones from Philadelphia and New Castle, Delaware were able to learn a little more about what makes the Delaware River healthy. And of course, they had fun, too!

Why WOMEN on the water? Why not 'kids on the water' or 'people on the water'? It's all about how women tend to be caregivers – of family, of neighborhoods, and now, of the environment. Without clean water and healthy children, we have no future. Women have an important role in making sure children are born and raised in a healthy environment. We challenge them to learn more about what it takes to have clean water.

In June, a new group of girls and their chaperones came to PEEC. Well, one of their chaperones wasn't new to PEEC – she was a camper here with the "Women in Natural Sciences" (WINS) program when she was in high school. She remembered the great time she had at PEEC and wanted to share the experience with girls from her church. So began the 2014 WOW season.

July's group of girls came from New Castle, Delaware. Because they live at the mouth of the river, everything that is done upstream on the Delaware River affects them. It was important for them to learn how we test water quality of our streams and ponds and then they performed those same tests on the river. They also learned to identify a variety of trees and smaller plants. Being able to recognize biodiversity in an area is also a way to see how that variety of animals and plants contribute to the health of their water sources.

Finally, we ended the program in August with a group of WINS girls. Even though we have partnered with the WINS program for many years, a different group of girls participates in the different programs we offer. Some of this year's girls heard about WOW from other girls in the group who had participated previously. But this year's planned activities were a



little different. We spent an extra morning at PEEC practicing canoeing in our ponds before tackling the river. Time was allotted to do thorough water quality testing, and find out why those tests were done. And finally, everyone was given a journal in which sketches of leaves of trees and flowers were carefully drawn.

Except for the August group which had their river experience shortened because Mother Nature sent thunderstorms on the day of our journey's start, the actual river trip was about twenty four miles long. The first afternoon the girls paddled four miles on a fairly quiet stretch of the Delaware. It was the perfect length to get them used to the difference between paddling in a pond vs. paddling on the river. Dinner and next morning's breakfast were made by the girls at a local campsite.

After campsite clean-up, Day Two began on the river. Paddling down a more active stretch of water, the girls canoed about ten miles to the place where they exchanged their boats for kayaks. Four more miles and day two on the river was finished. Of course, lunch and snack breaks (with swimming if the spot was appropriate!) were taken, along with bird watching, water quality testing, and more identification of trees and plants. Dinner and camping occurred at a primitive site. That's a nice way of saying that no running water or bathroom facilities are located there!

Day Three began with a very quick breakfast, campsite clean-up, and back on the river. This would be the day they would paddle six more miles through a small stretch of class one rapids, watch for bald eagles, and realize that they can do anything they put their minds to.

Special thanks go to Edge of the Woods Outfitters and Dingmans Campground for their part in making this season a huge success. Clean facilities and equipment along with van transportation to the 'put in' spot and 'take out' area, too, helped the experiences go off without a hitch.

Every WOW experience ends with some debriefing and reflection on what was learned. Among the comments for this season were the following thoughts: "I learned to stick with the challenge and finish it, even when it got difficult!" "I learned to have more patience." "I learned that I can do anything I put my mind to." "Don't panic during trouble." And a theme that was repeated frequently on the trip was "I learned how important good communication is."

WOW will happen again next year. Of course, there will be some minor changes. Different meals will be tried. Different girls will be here. But the wonder of WOW will be the same. And next summer will be another time when we all say, "WOW! That was GREAT!"

Enjoying Autumn Year-Round

By Derek Scott

At the end of summer every year, I am enthralled with the abundance vegetables from the harvest season. Everywhere you look there is an incredible variety of produce available, from gardens to roadside farm stands. I love to experiment in the kitchen, but each year I find myself with more vegetables than I know what to do with. It's hard to go to a farm stand and buy just the one or two kinds of fruits and vegetables you intended. There's always something else that catches your eye and, before you know it, you have produce piling up in your kitchen. For years I tried to break this habit before someone suggested a very simple solution, "Why don't you try canning?" At first I was skeptical, thinking it was just some kitchen hobby. Little did I know just how much I would fall in love with it.

For anyone who has never canned before, it can seem a bit overwhelming at first. There are so many different recipes you can prepare; where do you begin? While there's no real answer, there are many simple recipes for a large variety of produce. The first step is to determine what exactly it is that you want to preserve. For beginners, selecting a food high in acidity lowers the risk of botulism (food poisoning). Certain low-acidity foods can also easily (and safely) be prepared for canning if they are pickled. Good choices for high-acidity produce include fruits and tomatoes, while ideal low-acidity choices would be cucumbers, green beans, and cabbage (all excellent pickled). Once you decide upon a recipe (or several), the next step is prepping your workspace.

Many people often assume that the only way to effectively can is through the use of a pressure cooker. While this may be ideal for certain low-acidity foods, a hot water bath is a simplistic alternative. All you really need for a hot water bath is a large kitchen pot that allows the jars to be covered with about an inch or two of water. The hot water bath ultimately serves two purposes for canning. First, by gently boiling the jars, lids, and bands, you sterilize the jars from any potential contaminants that may exist. The second is for processing your jars after you have filled them with whatever it is you are canning. By leaving the required amount

of "headspace" at the top of the jars, this processing step ensures that the lids will have a tight seal. Wiping the bands and lids of the jars prior to placing them in the water bath also ensures a good seal. The time it takes to process your canned goods will depend on the recipe. Allow the jars time to cool before removing them from the hot water bath. Let your finished product sit for a few hours before checking to see if they sealed properly. In the event that

they did not, don't fret. Canned goods that did not properly seal can be kept in the fridge and enjoyed sooner than intended. Canning has been used to preserve food since the early 1800s and is still popular today. It's an excellent way to enjoy the fall harvest all year-long. Two of my favorite recipes are for dill pickles and caramel apple jam. If you're new to canning or looking to try something new, these recipes are simple, yet delicious. Enjoy!

Caramel Apple Jam

Yields 7 half-pints

6 cups diced apples
 ½ cup water
 ½ teaspoon butter
 1 1/2 ounce pectin packet
 3 cups sugar / 2 cups brown sugar
 ½ teaspoon cinnamon



Start by setting aside a large pot of water to act as your hot water bath. Make sure the pot is large enough to cover the jars by 1-2 inches when processing. Start by combining the apples, water, and butter in a large pot. Cook and stir on low heat until the apples are nice and tender. Add in pectin and bring to a boil. Once the mixture is at a boil, stir in sugar and continue at full boil for 2-3 minutes afterwards. Remove the pot from heat and ladle the mixture into the half-pint jars, being sure to leave ¼ inch of headspace. Wipe the jars clean before submerging them into the hot water bath and allowing them to process for 10 minutes. Give the jars ample time to cool before checking the seals.

Homemade Dill Pickles:

Yields 7 quarts

The recipe can be adjusted for a smaller yield

Fresh Cucumbers (number depends on size)
 8 ½ cups of water
 ½ cup pickling salt
 2 ¼ cups vinegar (white works best)
 Fresh Dill or Dill Seeds
 Garlic



Start by setting aside a large pot of water to act as your hot water bath. Make sure the pot is large enough to cover the jars by 1-2 inches when processing. Combine the water, vinegar, and salt in a large pot and bring the brine mixture to a boil. Once the ingredients have completely mixed (and no salt can be seen), turn down the heat and allow the brine to simmer until you are ready to fill your jars. In the meantime, begin slicing your cucumbers. They can be sliced vertically or horizontally (It's all preference but more surface area means tastier pickles!) Add dill and garlic (depending on how much flavor you want) to the bottom of the jars. Pack as many cucumbers into the jars as you can while ensuring there is about a half-inch of air space to the top. Add more dill and garlic if desired before pouring the still-hot brine over the jars, again, leaving a half-inch of headspace. Tighten the lids on your jars before adding them to your hot water bath for processing. Allow the jars 15-20 minutes to process and provide ample time to cool afterwards. Check the seals on your jars, store for at least a week. The longer your pickles stay canned, the more flavorful they become.

PEEC Raises Over \$100,000 At Its Second Annual Wild Things Ball!

PEEC is delighted to announce that its second “Wild Things” ball, this year entitled “1000 Cranes,” raised over \$100,000 for its 21st Century Sustainability Campaign. Last year’s ball, PEEC’s first ever major fundraiser, was a success, but this year’s exceeded it in every way. More than 100 guests attended and more than two dozen corporate and individual sponsors (fifty percent more than last year) underwrote the entire cost of the event. As a result, all of the proceeds from the auction and raffle represent funds available for PEEC’s new Peter Bohlin-designed Sustainability Lodge and other aspects of the sustainability campaign. Four of PEEC’s trustees agreed to match the funds raised from the auction, so that the total proceeds reached the six-figure mark.

Ed Raarup of Milford served as emcee and auctioneer and the Robbi Kumalo band, one of whose members attended camp at PEEC as a child, once again provided the music. A highlight of the evening was the décor, by Randy Auman of Milford. Eight foot spirals of origami cranes decorated each table and the entire 60 foot

length of the tent. “We actually used far more than the legendary 1000 cranes,” said Randy. “Jeff Rosalsky (PEEC’s Executive Director) personally designed and poured the concrete bases and the PEEC staff did an amazing job of stringing the cranes. But wait until you see what we are going to do next year!”



AUTUMN PROGRAMS 2014 AND GETAWAYS

**PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Unless otherwise indicated.**

TO REGISTER:

Call PEEC at 570-828-2319

OCTOBER

*"Falling Leaves" Family Nature
Getaway Weekend*

October 10-13

Cost: Adults \$210 / Child, Commuter,

Day Rates Available

Bring your friends and family to experience the best of what PEEC has to offer. Interpretive hikes, animal presentations, square dance, canoeing, campfire and more! Includes 3 nights lodging & meals from Friday dinner - Monday lunch.



Fall Photography w/ John Barclay

October 13-19

Cost: October 13-17

\$750 / \$700 commuter

Cost: October 17-19

\$290 / \$240 commuter

Capture the beautiful fall colors with world renowned photographer, John Barclay. Learn about exposure, composition and more. Geared towards DSLR type cameras. A tripod is recommended, but not required. Includes lodging and meals. Don't miss this wonderful opportunity – capture the beauty of autumn under the guidance of an amazing teacher!

Girl Scout Badge Fest

October 18 - 9:00am - 4:00pm

Cost: \$12 half day / \$20 full day

Payment is required at registration.

Space is limited - call early!

Overnight lodging is available – call for rates.

Attention all Girl Scouts! Come to PEEC for a fun day of badge work. Earn badges while working outside in the beautiful Pocono Mountains. PEEC staff will do their best to complete as much of a journey activity as possible, but due to the unique mix of each group and the progressive nature of the journeys, we cannot guarantee badge completion, especially for older Girl Scouts. All are from the "It's Your Planet – Love It!" Journey series.

Nature at Night

October 18

6:00pm - 8:00pm

Cost: \$5

A cool fall evening is the perfect time to head outside. Take a walk in the woods to listen for owls, look at stars, and enjoy the music of the night. Enjoy fun activities that test your night vision.

Ecozone Discovery Room!

October 19

1:00pm - 4:00pm

Cost: \$2 per person

Climb into a bald eagle's nest, crawl into a bat cave, and dig in a fossil pit! Explore this indoor discovery room and enjoy hands-on exhibits on natural history, sustainability and the local environment. No registration required.

Boy Scout Badge Fest

October 25 & 26

9:00am - 4:00pm

Cost: \$12 half day / \$20 full day

Attention all Bears, Webelos and Boy Scouts! Come to PEEC for a fun day of badge work. Call for details on specific badges. Payment is required at registration. Space is limited - call early!

Wolves: (AM) Your Living World;

(PM) Birds – Saturday Only

Bears: (AM) Nature Crafts; (PM) Water and

Soil Conservation – Saturday Only

Webelos: (AM) Forester; (PM) Naturalist –

Full for Saturday / Spaces Available Sunday

Boy Scouts: (Full Day Only) Nature – Several

Spaces for Saturday / Spaces Available Sunday

NOVEMBER

Little Eco Explorers: Bats

November 1

10:30am - 12:00pm

Cost: \$5 per child

It's a new program for 3-6 year olds! Join us for a story, craft, and activity focusing on a particular critter. Call for details.

Ecozone Discovery Room!

November 1

1:00pm - 4:00pm

Cost: \$2 per person

Climb into a bald eagle's nest, crawl into a bat cave, and dig in a fossil pit! Explore this indoor discovery room and enjoy hands-on exhibits on natural history, sustainability and the local environment. No registration required.

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

November 1

5:00pm - 7:00pm

Cost: Free

To show our appreciation for all they do, PEEC's volunteers are invited to a special dinner.

Sunday for Singles Nature Hike

November 2

1:00pm - 3:00pm

Cost: Free

Enjoy a guided hike on a PEEC trail. This program is all about exploring nature and meeting new people.



Flying Needles Quilt Camp

November 6-9

Cost: \$255 / \$205 commuter

All Unfinished Objects and fiber arts are welcome! Join Patti Shreiner for a relaxing weekend in the beautiful Pocono Mountains. Beginners are always encouraged to join. Focus projects: all fiber arts. Includes 3 nights lodging and 9 meals.



Continued on Page 12

AUTUMN PROGRAMS AND GETAWAYS

Continued from Page 11

NOVEMBER

Ecozone Discovery Room!

November 15

1:00pm - 4:00pm

Cost: \$2 per person / free admission with Game Dinner ticket

Climb into a bald eagle's nest, crawl into a bat cave, and dig in a fossil pit! Explore this indoor discovery room and enjoy hands-on exhibits on natural history, sustainability and the local environment.

No registration required.



Game Dinner

November 15

5:00pm - 7:00pm

5pm - Reception in the Ecozone

6pm - Dinner in the Dining Hall

Cost: \$35 / \$60 couple

Enjoy the bounty of the season at PEEC's 5th annual game dinner! This dinner features local game and seasonal harvests. Bring your friends & family to enjoy this cozy evening.

Lenape of the Eastern Woodlands

November 16

12:00pm - 2:00pm

Ages 10+ please

Cost: \$20

Mike Dennis of Traditional Earth Skills will teach you about the day-to-day activities of the Lenape culture. The food, clothing and shelter of the local hunter gatherers will be presented, along with handmade artifacts.

Holiday Bows and Boughs

November 30

12:00pm - 2:00pm

Cost: \$10

Create your own holiday decorations using natural materials! We provide evergreen boughs and materials for you to make wreaths. You can also bring your own supplies and decorations. Pre-registration required.

DECEMBER

Introduction to Astronomy

December 6

6:00pm - 7:30pm

Cost: \$10

Step out for an evening of star gazing and learn about some of the constellations in the sky. Pre-registration required. All ages welcome.

Winter Ecology Hike

December 7

10:00am - 12:00pm

Cost: Free for members /

\$5 for non-members

Learn how different plants and animals survive the winter. Join us on a hike and experience PEEC in the wintertime. All ages welcome.

Around the Campfire

December 7

4:30pm - 6:00pm

Cost: \$5

Enjoy a lovely evening around the campfire. S'mores provided. Bring your favorite campfire song! Pre-registration required.



PEEC

Pocono Environmental
Education Center

Save the
Date!

**GAME
DINNER**

SATURDAY, NOV. 15

5:00PM - 7:00PM



CALL PEEC
570.828.2319

Call now to make your
RESERVATIONS

peec@peec.org • www.peec.org

\$35

PER PERSON

\$60

PER COUPLE

Tickets sold out last year.

**POCONO ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION CENTER**
538 Emery Road
Dingmans Ferry, PA 18328



**PEEC
TWEETS**

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