



**PEEC**  
Pocono Environmental  
Education Center



Summer Solstice 2016

# Seasons

A Quarterly Publication to Advance Environmental Literacy

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**Pocono Environmental  
Education Center**

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## Protecting our Pollinators

By Lea Della Vecchia

Bees are buzzing, birds are flying past – but what are they doing, really? The summer is a time when a lot of insects are busy gathering nectar—and pollinating flowers in the process. Pollinators are responsible for pollinating more than two-thirds of the world's crop species. Pollinators come in all shapes and sizes.

Common pollinators in our area include bees, hummingbirds, moths and butterflies. In their quest for nectar, these pollinators inadvertently roll around in the pollen of plants, and deposit the pollen on the stamen of the next flowers they visit. The pollen fertilizes the flower, and a fruit begins to develop. Plants that require insect pollinators generally have sweet nectar to draw in the pollinators.

Honey bees are an interesting pollinator species. To produce 150 pounds of honey, bees must travel the distance between the moon and the Earth 13 times! In Pennsylvania, honey bees are attracted to the flowers of a variety of tree species as well as herbaceous and annual plants. Some favorites include sunflowers, clover, goldenrod, milkweed and many other common wildflowers.

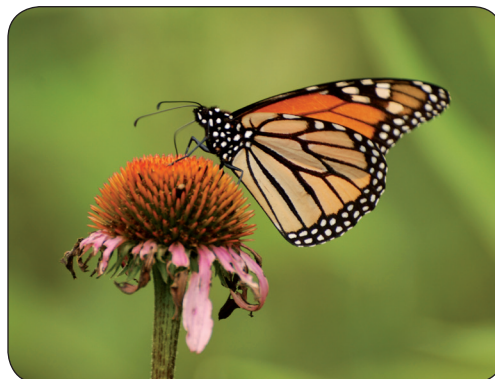
Butterflies are another important pollinator species. Common butterflies in Pennsylvania include swallowtails, monarchs, and fritillaries,



among many others. Butterflies seek brightly colored blooms in clusters. Flowers generally have a landing pad for the butterflies to rest. Common species pollinated by butterflies include plants in the Aster family, bee balm, cosmos and many others.

Pollinators are at risk though. At present, bees are suffering from a condition called colony collapse disorder. The origin of colony collapse disorder is unknown. Honeybees are vanishing in relatively large numbers, and bees that do return to their hives are dying from a myriad of conditions, including viruses, mites and funguses. These bees have compromised immune systems, making them susceptible to intruders.

It is thought that neonicotinoids pesticides are responsible for the decline of our insect pollinators nationwide. Neonicotinoids act as a neurotoxin to insects, but are believed to have no effect on humans. Many commercially planted seeds, including corn seeds, are coated with neonicotinoid pesticides, and as they are planted it is thought the dust kicked up contains the pesticide and it travels through the air to nearby bee hives. Corn is not pollinated by bees, yet bees are affected by the pesticides. This has led to much legal debate about the use of neonicotinoids nationwide.



*Continued on page 7*

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## Message from the Executive Director



In early April, I had the amazing opportunity to kayak with friends from Abbott Marshland near Trenton to the Seaport Museum in Philadelphia and then back up the Cooper River into Camden. Once we headed out of the marsh and under Routes 195 and 295, my expectations for natural beauty along this stretch of the Delaware River were fairly low. It was a natural bias, given how pristine our stretch of the Delaware is, but I could not have been more wrong. While there were a few active industrial sites visible from the water and significant remnants of an industrial American past that focused on water transport, the visible pollution was minimal and the diverse fauna and flora was astounding. In fact, some of the rusted skeletons of ship loading and unloading infrastructure looked like modern sculptures of giant red dinosaurs bending down to drink. Even kayaking into Camden, with low bridges and roads crossing the Cooper in many places and the Campbell's soup factory close to the river edge, it was a beautiful paddle with trees overhanging the water and wildfowl joining our flotilla.

I am continually amazed by the resilience of the natural world, despite the abuse and neglect by humans. The waterways and the forests have a phenomenal capacity for self-restoration seamlessly coordinated with the return of wildlife. Too often, we dwell on the doom and gloom of how we and prior generations have damaged the environment. While there are valuable lessons to be learned from our mistakes, and we need to be vigilant about existing and new threats, we need to hold out some hope for students we are educating as new stewards of the planet. We don't want them to throw up their hands in despair and helplessness and feel it is too late. So for a moment, I want to celebrate our successes and the surprising resilience of the natural world and, of course, enjoy a paddle in any stretch of the Delaware River.

## Save the Date

# Metamorphosis Ball

*Join us for Cocktails, Dinner, and Dancing!*

*Saturday, September 17, 2016*

*4th Annual Wild Things Ball in support of  
Pocono Environmental Education Center*

*For more information or to  
become a sponsor or an auction donor  
contact Janine at 570-828-2319 or [peec@peec.org](mailto:peec@peec.org)*

## Purple Coneflower

By Sheri Bone

It's a flower that produces nectar for honeybees, butterflies, and other insects all summer long.

Birds (especially goldfinches and other small songbirds) eat its seeds in the fall.

It's a perennial, so you don't have to plant it every year; Mother Nature takes care of that. One source said it's technically an annual, but reseeds itself so it has characteristics of being perennial. Either way, you don't have to plant it every year!

For hundreds of years, Native Americans knew how to use it for its medicinal qualities, and it's even used today for its healing properties!

### What kind of 'superplant' is this?

This native wildflower is the Eastern Purple Coneflower! Its Latin name is *Echinacea purpurea*. The word 'echinacea' is rooted from a Greek word meaning 'hedgehog' and its middle cone (its seed holder) resembles that prickly animal. It belongs in the same family as asters, black-eyed Susans, and daisies. It has tall, hairy stems and has pretty pink, white, or purplish petals. It should be in everyone's flower beds!

The Eastern Purple Coneflower likes well drained soil, full sun, and cannot tolerate extreme dry conditions. It does not like to compete with other plants either, so should be weeded frequently. Given the right conditions, though, it can take over a spot in your garden. It can be grown from seed, or its root crowns can be divided from mature plants. It is

important to transplant the split sections immediately as the exposed roots are susceptible to drying, and that is never good for the Purple Coneflower.

As mentioned, it has medicinal properties. The Native Americans used it for many ailments: toothaches, coughs, colds, and sore throats. Also, they knew how to use parts of the plant for dressing wounds. Modern medicine has agreed that it does help fight bacterial and viral infections. All parts of the plant - leaves, roots, flowers - are used for medicinal purposes. Before using Echinacea for your own use, you will need to read up on how the different parts should be used, and also any side effects. It has been shown to lose effectiveness if overused.

This plant has become very popular for its medicinal properties, and has been overharvested in many places where it used to grow abundantly. The areas where you can find it growing wild are eastern to central United States, as far north as Wisconsin, and as far south as Texas. It will thrive in open fields, prairies and upland sites if left alone. But its numbers have drastically decreased in its natural range due to overharvest.

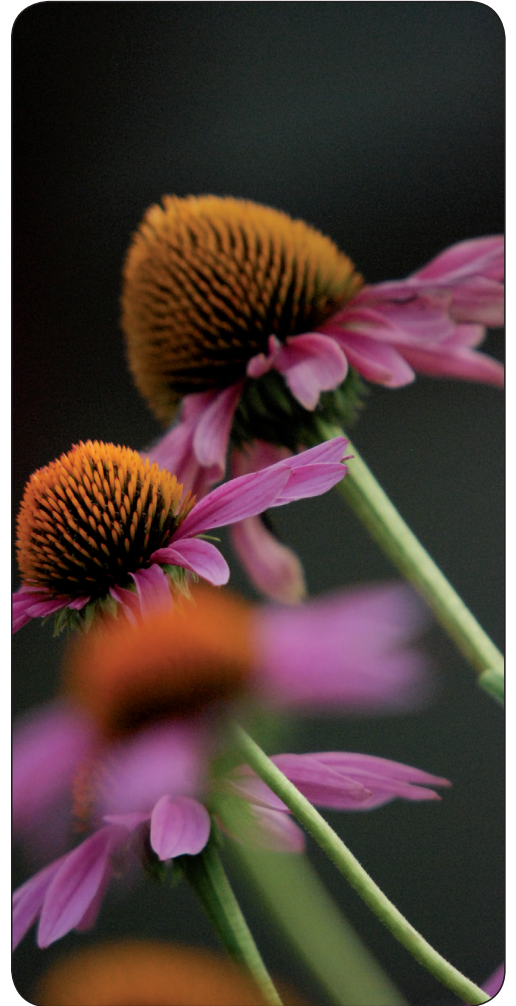
Even more special, to me, than the possibility of using the plant for healing, is the joy I get from just seeing them in my garden, encouraging the butterflies and bees to sip the nectar. Will this native plant be in your garden if it isn't already?

*Credits:*

*USDA - NRCS East Texas Plant Materials*

*Center - Plant Fact Sheet*

*San Francisco Chronicle - Home Guide - Purple Coneflower Facts*



Purple Cone Flower



**PEEC**

Pocono Environmental  
Education Center

## ADULT NATURE AUGUST 5-7, 2016 WEEKEND

Take a weekend off and relax in the Poconos! Enjoy interpretive hikes, canoeing, waterfall tours, animal presenters, campfires, and more! Ages 21 and up, please. Includes two nights of lodging and six meals.

**Commuter & Day Rates available  
Call for details.**

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## Venomous & Non-venomous Snakes: A Case of Mistaken Identities

By Derek Scott

There are over 20 different snake species that inhabit Pennsylvania, with about half as many known to reside in the northeastern part of the state. Of the dozen or so that live in our area, the only 2 venomous species are the copperhead and the timber rattlesnake. These snakes are commonly confused with many of the non-venomous species that share the same habitat. Below are some facts to help you differentiate between our local venomous and non-venomous species. Please note that regardless of whether a snake is venomous or not, it is always best to keep your distance. These reptiles don't want to deal with people any more than we want to deal with them.



Copperhead Snake

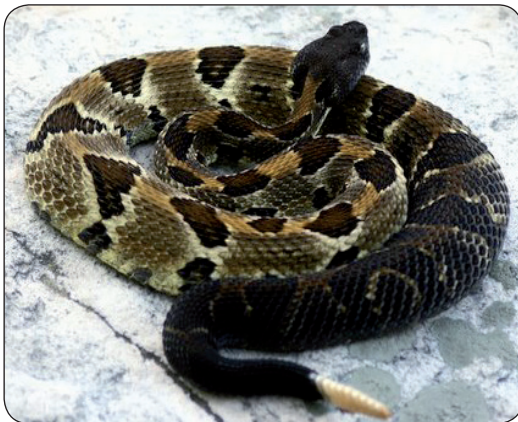
The copperhead (*Agkistrodon contortrix*) is one of the two venomous snake species found in our area of Pennsylvania.

These snakes tend to reside in open, rocky areas such as ledges and outcrops, but can also be found in fields and clearings with brush piles to hide under. Copperheads are heavy-bodied, medium sized snakes that can have several color variants, but usually appear gray or beige. The bands along the body are hourglass-shaped and are narrowest on the back. They are a reddish-brown color and tend to get darker towards the edges of the markings.

from their flattened, triangular heads which are a distinct copper color. Copperheads, like many venomous snakes, have elliptical pupils which resemble the eyes of a cat.

Timber rattlesnakes (*Crotalus horridus*) are the only other venomous snake species found in this region of the state. Just like the copperhead, they prefer rocky ledges and outcrops, but can also be found in forest habitats with plenty of groundcover.

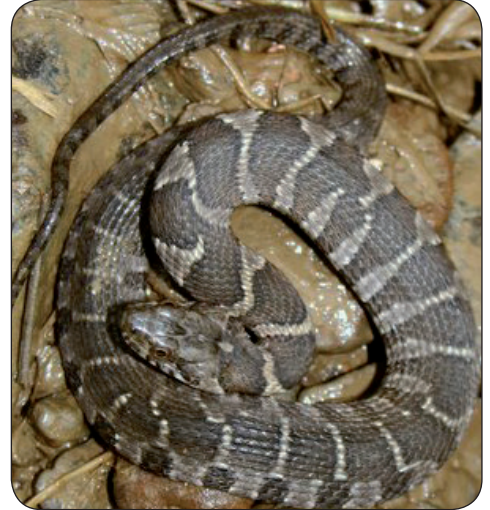
Timber rattlesnakes are large, heavy-bodied snakes that have two different distinct patterns: a yellow phase and a black phase. Their background coloration can vary between the two, anywhere from a yellow-brown to a very dark brown. The markings



Timber Rattlesnake

on these snakes often appear blotchy and sometimes lack uniformity. On dark phase timber rattlesnakes, the markings match the background color so closely, they almost appear non-existent. The tails of these snakes often lack the patterning of the rest of the body and end with their characteristic rattle.

Northern water snakes (*Nerodia sipedon*) are commonly misidentified as a venomous snake species because of their coloration and pattern. The background color of these snakes can vary from a gray or tan to a light brown hue, while their saddle-like patterning is typically a reddish brown. It is important to note that as they age, northern water snakes will become darker in color.



Northern Water Snake

Despite being mistaken for both copperheads and timber rattlesnakes, northern water snakes have a few distinguishing characteristics that can aid you in identification. Unlike their venomous counterparts, these snakes have narrow heads, but are capable of flattening themselves out to appear more menacing and full-bodied. Northern water snakes also lack the elliptical pupils associated with venomous snakes.

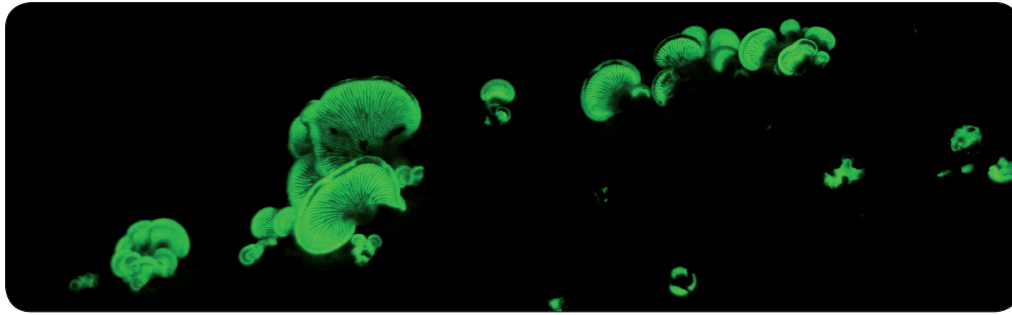


Eastern Milk Snake

Eastern milk snakes (*Lampropeltis triangulum triangulum*) are most often confused with copperheads because of the similarities they share in color and pattern. Both species exhibit a gray to beige body color overlaid by strong,

brown patterning. The pattern on a copperhead closely resembles the shape of an hourglass, while the eastern milk snake will have more of a blocky pattern. These blocky blotches are often outlined in black and can also be seen running along the sides of the body.

While these two snake species have similar looking bodies, you need look no further than their heads to tell them apart. Copperheads, as the name implies, have a copper colored head that appears large, flat, and triangular. Eastern milk snakes typically have similar patterns on the head and body, although a "Y" or "V" shaped blotch may be seen on the back of the head.



## Mother Nature's Natural Glow Stick

By Allison Owczarczak

It's that time of year again to leave your flashlight in your pack as you venture into the woods at night in search of a ~~fun-guy~~ fungi named foxfire. There are approximately 75 species of fungus among us on this planet that have the bioluminescent trait; you can simply call them all foxfire rather than know them by their individual common or scientific names, much as we do with fireflies.

I seek out bitter oyster in the months of August and September, when I have found I have the best luck finding it at night. To prepare for my night trips, I hunt in deciduous (leaf bearing trees) woods for decaying logs and branches of oak, beech and birch during the daytime in July and August. I look for the tell-tale tiny white knobs that will develop into dense, overlapping clusters of fan or kidney-shaped caps. The caps will be an orange-yellow to brownish in color and attached to the decaying wood by short stubby stalks that are connected off-center or on the side of the caps. Once I find the fungus during the day, I will make nightly walks into the woods to see the glow in action. The glow is short lived, often only lasting one night for individuals, but often another section of the log or branch is aglow as the fruiting bodies finally ripen.

So how do the ~~fun-guys~~ fungi do it (and how do I explain it simply)?

Through the result of experimental data using cell-free extracts (a fluid obtained by breaking open cells), it has been found that the fungi bioluminescence has a two-stage process. The fungus creates light during a chemical reaction that occurs when the quick-growing, healthy fungal cells consume wood and the oxidative

enzyme luciferase reacts with luciferin (from the Latin *lucifer*, "light-bringer"). Luciferin is a generic term for the light-emitting compound found in organisms that generate bioluminescence. Conditions that affect the growth of fungi, such as pH, light and temperature, have been found to influence bioluminescence, suggesting a link between metabolic activity and fungal bioluminescence.

Is there a purpose for fungi to have bioluminescence?

~~Leave it to the fun guys to bring the glow sticks to the party.~~ Although not established with certainty, scientists hypothesize that fungus produces light to attract insects to aid in spore dispersal under a forest canopy where wind flow is greatly reduced. Another theory is to warn organisms that want to consume the fungus of their inedible nature.

One last helpful word of advice I can give you before you set off in search of foxfire yourself is to make sure you do not set out on a moonlit night. Otherwise, you will be drawn to every patch of moonlight that hits the forest floor as I have. Good luck!

### Randolph "Skip" Gregory

1932 to 2016

Everyone at PEEC was saddened to hear of Skip Gregory's passing on June 9th at the age of 84. Skip's impact on Pike County and Milford as a prominent businessman, public servant, volunteer in numerous organizations, and author are well known. His passion for the Borough of Milford, its heritage and its people, served as an inspiration to all. Skip was also a great friend of PEEC and served on its Board of Trustees from 1997 to 2000. He will be greatly missed by all.



## Glenn Simpson Memorial

September 10-11, 2016

Please join us for a memorial to our friend and coworker Glenn Simpson.

Glenn worked at PEEC from 2011 - 2015 and he shared his enthusiasm about nature and the environment with thousands of school children & visitors during his time at with us. We are planning to plant a tree and add a memorial bench to Glenn's favorite trail, Tumbling Waters. We will also be dedicating the BMX bike which has been added to our EcoZone bike generator display.

Donations for the Glenn Simpson Memorial are still be accepted. Please send any donations to PEEC at 538 Emery Road, Dingmans Ferry, PA 18328.



# SUMMER CAMP<sup>2016</sup>

7 SESSIONS • JULY 4 – AUGUST 19

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ONLINE  
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[peec.org/camp](http://peec.org/camp)

**Or call for  
information  
570-828-2319**

## The Value of Camp

*By Andrea Ace*

The value of camp is more than just the price tag. PEEC's summer camp is fortunate to have a network of donors who contribute funds and supplies which help run programs and provide financial assistance for children to attend camp.

People who donate money to PEEC's campership program are donating more than just their hard-earned dollars; they are helping children learn, grow and create fond memories which will impact their lives.

When campers come to summer camp here at PEEC, here is what they receive:

### **Hands-on exploration of nature in a national park.**

PEEC's summer camp is a nature focused program that encourages campers from ages 3 to 16 to spend a week having meaningful experiences in nature. Being surrounded by fresh air and a forest can go a long way – do you remember how tall and mysterious the forest seemed when you were young?

**Becoming a part of the PEEC community.** When campers are here, they become a part of our community. Our camp can feel like its own small ecosystem during the summer, with everyone filling different roles. We encourage campers to step away from the sidelines and engage in the activities and teambuilding that happens here each day.

**Supportive environment to stretch beyond their comfort zone.** Campers will have the opportunity to try new things, whether it's a three year old Tadpole sifting through mud in our ponds or a 15 year old Senior Naturalist hiking on the Appalachian Trail. This encourages problem solving, resiliency and growth.

**Reconnect to the earth.** Oftentimes it can be easy to get caught up in the conveniences of modern life; our camp program immerses children in nature and helps them form connections between the natural world and their own lives. As campers grow older and move up in our camping programs, they learn to build a fire, cook a meal, and spend a night camping outdoors.

**Positive social interactions with peers and role models (aka camp counselors).** A great deal of the feedback I receive revolves around the memories campers have made during their time at PEEC. Usually these memories include or focus on friendships they have made or the positive influence of a camp counselor. At camp, we provide a safe environment where campers are valued for who they are and we give children the freedom to express themselves.

## Protecting our Pollinators

*Continued from page 1*

Bees pollinate crucial food crops and contribute \$14 billion in value to the United States agriculture economy. Bees are responsible for the pollination and subsequent fruit of 90% of the apple crops. There are 4000 bee species in the United States, 400 of which can be found in Pennsylvania.

Supporting our pollinators means supporting biodiversity within our ecosystems. There are a variety of ways to support pollinators in your garden. Plant a variety of native plants that produce flowers at different times of the year – this is important, as the flowers provide a source of nectar for pollinators. A variety of colors



and shapes of flowers will allow many different pollinators to thrive in your garden. Pollinators need water to drink and places to nest. Avoiding pesticide and insecticide use on your property

is also an important thing to remember when creating insect pollinator habitat. Even use of these chemicals nearby can harm pollinators that may frequent your garden.

### Sources:

- <http://www.xerces.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/02/pa-nj-native-bee-benefits1.pdf>
- [http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portall/nrcs/detail/pa/plantsanimals/?cid=nrcs142p2\\_018171](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portall/nrcs/detail/pa/plantsanimals/?cid=nrcs142p2_018171)
- <http://www.gardenswithwings.com/what-is-a-butterfly-garden/nectar-plants.html>
- <http://www.fws.gov/pollinators/>
- <http://ento.psu.edu/publications/are-neonicotinoids-killing-bees>

## BRIDGE THE GAP 2016

COME OUT & ENJOY THE PARK!

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Thank you to the William Penn  
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## LEARN ABOUT THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF DRAGONFLIES & BUTTERFLIES!

PEEC is close to home, where learning comes naturally!



**DRAGONFLY  
WALK**

SATURDAY JULY 23 • 1-3PM

**BUTTERFLY  
WALK**

SATURDAY AUGUST 13  
10AM-12PM

Join David Trently on a search  
through the fields and around  
the ponds for butterflies  
and dragonflies.

**Call early – spaces fill up fast!**

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FOR EACH EVENT

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# SUMMER PROGRAMS AND GETAWAYS

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

## TO REGISTER:

Call PEEC at 570-828-2319

## JULY

### "Celebration with a Bang"

Family Nature Getaway

Weekend July 1-4

Adults \$225 • 25% off ages 7-10

50% off ages 4-6 • free under 3

Commuter and day rates available

— call for details

Bring your friends and family to experience the best of what PEEC has to offer. Nature hikes, animal presentations, swimming, canoeing, fireworks, campfire and more! Price includes three nights lodging and meals from Friday dinner to Monday lunch.

### Bridge the Gap: Hike and Bike

Saturday, July 9, 9am-3pm

Cost: Free admission

Join us for a bike ride along the McDade Trail, followed by a hike back at PEEC. We will provide all equipment and transportation. Please bring a water bottle and lunch, and wear sturdy footwear. We will have snacks and extra water available.

Please register as soon as possible as space is limited. Funding for this program provided by the William Penn Foundation. Call for details.

### Ecozone Discovery Room!

Saturday, July 9, 1-4pm

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.

### Summer Pond Paddle

Sunday, July 10, 10am-12pm

Cost: \$5

Enjoy summer out on the water! Paddle a canoe or a kayak on one of our ponds. Beginners are welcome — we teach you everything you need to know. Dress appropriately — you may get wet. Call to reserve a boat.

### Bridge the Gap: Pond Paddle

Saturday, July 16, 1-3pm

Cost: Free

Come join us for a free paddle on our ponds! Beginners are welcome—we will teach you everything you need to know! Dress appropriately—you may get wet. Spaces are limited; Call to reserve a boat! Funding for this program provided by the William Penn Foundation.

### Dragonfly Walk

Saturday, July 23, 1-3pm

Cost: \$5

Learn about the wonderful world of dragonflies!

Join David Trently on a search through the fields and around the ponds for dragonflies and butterflies. Call early — spaces fill up fast.

### Sunday for Singles

Sunday, July 24, 1-3pm

Cost: Free

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

### Edible & Medicinal Plant Walk

Saturday, July 30, 10am-12pm

Cost: \$5

Nature provides food & natural remedies for us in the form of many plants. Join us on a hike focused on wild edible & medicinal plants. No collecting will be done within the Park.



### Frog Frolic

Saturday, July 30, 1-3pm

Cost: \$5 per person

Join us for a fun afternoon at the ponds and streams! Learn about some of our frog friends as we gently catch and release these hopping amphibians. Wear boots and plan on getting a little wet and muddy!

### Bridge the Gap: Pond Paddle

Sunday, July 31, 10am-12pm

Cost: Free

Come join us for a free paddle on our ponds! Beginners are welcome—we will teach you everything you need to know! Dress appropriately—you may get wet. Spaces are limited; Call to reserve a boat! Funding for this program provided by the William Penn Foundation.

### Ecozone Discovery Room!

Sunday, July 31, 1-4pm

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.

## AUGUST

### Adult Nature Weekend

August 5-7

Cost: \$195 — Commuter & Day Rates available — Call for details.

Take a weekend off and relax in the Poconos! Enjoy interpretive hikes, canoeing, waterfall tours, animal presenters, campfires, and more! Ages 21 and up, please. Includes two nights of lodging and six meals.



*Continued on Page 9*

# SUMMER PROGRAMS AND GETAWAYS

Continued from Page 9

*Little Eco Explorers: Fish*  
 Sunday, August 7, 1-3pm  
 Cost: \$5 per child

A fun hands-on program for young children! Join us for a story, craft, and activity focusing on a particular critter. Call for details.

*Butterfly Walk*  
 Saturday, August 13, 10am-12pm  
 Cost: \$5

Learn about the wonderful world of butterflies! Join David Trently on a search through the fields and around the ponds for butterflies and dragonflies. Call early – spaces fill up fast!



*Bridge the Gap: Tumbling Waters Hike*  
 Saturday, August 13, 9am-12pm  
 Cost: Free

Join us for an interpretive hike on our Tumbling Waters Trail. This 3 mile loop features a beautiful waterfall and a scenic overlook of the Delaware River Valley.

*Frog Frenzy*  
 Sunday, August 14, 10am-12pm  
 Cost: \$5 per person

Join us for a fun morning at the ponds and streams! Learn about some of our frog friends as we gently catch and release these hopping amphibians. Wear boots and plan on getting a little wet and muddy.



*Ecozone Discovery Room!*  
 Sunday, August 14, 1-4pm  
 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.

*Bridge the Gap: Pond Paddle*  
 Saturday, August 20, 1-3pm  
 Cost: Free

Come join us for a free paddle on our ponds! Beginners are welcome—we will teach you everything you need to know! Dress appropriately—you may get wet. Spaces are limited; Call to reserve a boat! Funding for this program provided by the William Penn Foundation.

*Nature at Night*  
 Saturday, August 20, 8-9:30pm  
 Cost: \$5

A pleasant summer 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.

*Edible & Medicinal Plant Walk*  
 Sunday, August 21, 1-3pm  
 Cost: \$5

Nature provides food & natural remedies for us in the form of many plants. Join us on a hike focused on wild edible & medicinal plants. No collecting will be done within the Park.

*Geology Hike*  
 Sunday, August 21, 1-3pm  
 Cost: \$5

Come join us for a program based on the geology of the area. We'll take a short hike and talk about rocks, fossils, glacial deposits, and what makes our park unique.

*Pond Explorers*  
 Saturday, August 27, 10am-12pm  
 Cost: \$5 per person

Join us as we explore the ponds with nets! We'll collect fish, macro-invertebrates, amphibians, and anything else we find in some buckets, for up-close study. Wear boots and plan on getting a little wet and muddy! Register early!

*Ecozone Discovery Room!*  
 Saturday, August 27, 1-4pm  
 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.

*Bridge the Gap: Pond Paddle*  
 Sunday, August 28, 10am-12pm  
 Cost: Free

Come join us for a free paddle on our ponds! Beginners are welcome—we will teach you everything you need to know! Dress appropriately—you may get wet. Spaces are limited; Call to reserve a boat! Funding for this program provided by the William Penn Foundation.

*Sunday for Singles*  
 Sunday, August 28, 1-3pm  
 Cost: Free

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

## SEPTEMBER

*"Migrate to the Poconos"*  
 Family Nature Getaway Weekend  
 Labor Day Weekend: September 2 - 5  
 Cost: Adults \$225 • 25% off ages 7-10  
 50% off ages 4-6 • free under 3  
 Commuter and day rates available  
 – call for details

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

Continued on Page 10

# SUMMER PROGRAMS AND GETAWAYS

Continued from Page 9

## Pocono Quilt Camp

September 9-16

\$70 per day - Call for commuter rates

Join Patti Shreiner for a relaxing time at the 17th annual Quilt Camp! Stay for a day, the weekend, the week, or for the entire time! Explore "Quilt As You Go By The Row". One row makes a table runner, Join five runners and the borders for a lap quilt. Other activities include hikes, a shopping trip, and many small projects. Supply list will be provided. Includes lodging and meals!

## Volunteer Day - Pike County Day of Caring

Saturday, September 10, 9am-2pm

"Be the change you wish to see in the world." - Gandhi

This is the perfect day to become involved with our volunteer program. Preregistration required. Lunch will be provided.

## Bridge the Gap: Pond Paddle

Saturday, September 10

Free 1-3pm

Come join us for a free paddle on our ponds! Beginners are welcome—we will teach you everything you need to know! Dress appropriately—you may get wet. Spaces are limited; Call to reserve a boat! Funding for this program provided by the William Penn Foundation.



## Fungus Among Us

Sunday, September 11, 10am-12pm

Cost: \$5

Search for fungus and lichen as you learn about the amazing world of decomposition and nutrient cycling.

## Fall Warblers

Saturday, September 17, 8-10am

Cost: \$5

Learn from the experts. Join Dr. Terry Master, Biology Professor at ESU, for an in-depth look at the migrating fall warbler species.

## Wild Things Ball

Saturday, September 17, 6-10pm

Cost: \$125 per person

Join us for PEEC's annual fundraiser. This event will be held at here at PEEC! Enjoy music, dancing, and an auction. Call for more details.

## Park History Tour

Sunday, September 18, 9am-4pm

Cost: \$25 members / \$30 non-members

Explore the Park to find the many scenic and historic sites within our beloved recreation area. Bring a water bottle, lunch, and a camera for great photo opportunities. Call to reserve a seat in the van. Carpooling encouraged.

## Ecozone Discovery Room!

Sunday, September 18, 1-4pm

Cost: \$2 per person

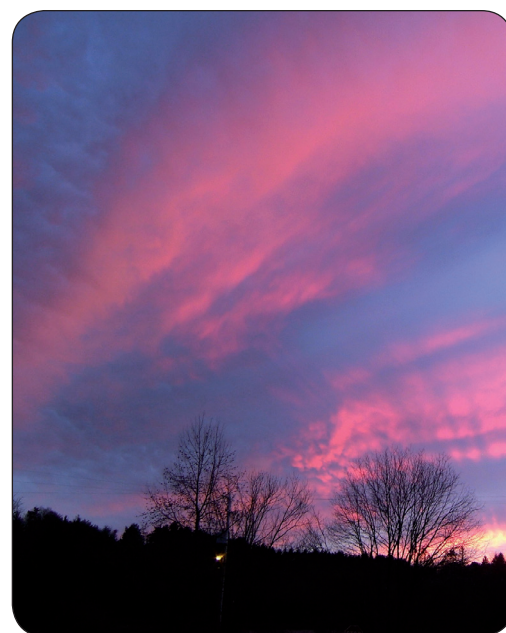
Climb into a bald eagle's nest, crawl into a bat cave, and dig in a fossil pit! Explore this indoor discovery room and enjoy hands-on exhibits on natural history, sustainability and the local environment. No registration required.

## Introduction to Orienteering

Saturday, September 24, 1-3pm

Cost: \$5

Come learn how to use a map & compass on our orienteering course. We'll show you the basics before you try and find all the points.



## Nature at Night

Saturday, September 24, 7-8:30pm

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.

## Fire Building

Sunday, September 25, 10am-12pm

Cost: \$5

Learn some primitive fire making skills. Try your hand at a flint & steel fire and more! Ages 10+ please.



**PEEC**  
Pocono Environmental  
Education Center

## EDIBLE & MEDICINAL PLANT WALK SATURDAY JULY 30 • 10AM- 12PM

Nature provides food & natural remedies for us in the form of many plants. Join us on a hike focused on wild edible & medicinal plants.

**No collecting will  
be done within the Park.**

POCONO ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER  
538 Emery Road • Dingmans Ferry, Pennsylvania 18328

CALL NOW TO MAKE YOUR  
**RESERVATIONS**  
peec@peec.org • www.peec.org

**CALL  
PEEC**  
570.828.2319  
**\$5 PER  
PERSON**