



PEEC
Pocono Environmental
Education Center



Autumnal Equinox 2018

Seasons

A Quarterly Publication to Advance Environmental Literacy

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**Pocono Environmental
Education Center**

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C is for Country Hunter - A Look at the Short Eared Owl

By Sheri Bone



Owls are very interesting. So far I have been able to learn about three different kinds that live in Pennsylvania: The Adorable Saw Whet owl (that many people know about because they graced some PA license plates not too long ago) and the Barred and Barn Owls. This article will focus on a fourth – the “Country hunter” – the Short Eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*).

As its name suggests, this crow-sized owl has tufts of feathers that resemble ears of mammals; however, they are very short and sometimes can't be seen. So, if you look for a short eared owl, you will have to know some other things to look for.

It has a large rounded head and a dark beak. While its face has light parts, it is not white like the barn owl. Its face is streaked with brown, and its eyes are yellow with smudgy colored feathers surrounding it. There are dark feathers encircling the eyes, making it look like someone played a trick, having it look through binoculars that were painted. Sometimes the feathers at the sides of the eyes look like long eyelashes.

This owl is not totally nocturnal. While it can and does hunt at night, it is also crepuscular as it is active at dawn and dusk. You can also find it active during the day near fields and other open areas as it hunts for its prey. It loves to hunt for small rodents – voles are its favorites. The short eared owl used to be a common sight on farms, but the decline of farm fields has led to the decrease of short eared owl sightings. Like other owls, the short eared owl can be found in places other than Pennsylvania. This owl can be found throughout North America, and also in South America and Eurasia.

It has been said that these are the easiest owls to see since they are out during the daytime, and you might want to look for them during mating season. In our area, that's April. The female will make a nest on the ground, hidden by brush and grasses, and the male will do a flight display above

Continued on page 4

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Executive Director Message Fall 2018

By: Jeff Rosalsky

While the entire PEEC campus is a wonderful example of sustainable reuse, having been repurposed from its origins as Honeymoon Haven, sometimes buildings reach the end of their useful life. Such was the case with the Nature Lodge, which was for many years PEEC's and Honeymoon Haven's dining hall—before that it was a rec room with an indoor pool.

The Nature Lodge was demolished this spring. The void of the old pool was filled in and much of the building debris was recycled to make way for two 30-foot diameter teaching yurts, a beautiful Trex deck, and a bathroom yurt. The yurts provide soaring circular spaces, which encourage group learning, with a beautiful view over the lower campus fields and pavilions. The yurts are insulated and heated and will provide much needed, modern classroom and meeting space on lower campus.



The teaching yurts honor Dr. S. Marie Kuhnen, who was a founding trustee of PEEC, an extraordinary educator, mentor, conservationist, and birder. I had the privilege of working with Marie when she was on the PEEC Board. I am confident she would be thrilled that PEEC now has additional, beautiful classroom space to help us educate tens of thousands of students each year. The beautiful red shouldered hawk that nests on lower campus would concur.



PEEC
Pocono Environmental
Education Center

FIRE BUILDING

**Learn some
primitive and
modern fire
making
skills.**



Ages 10+ please

**SUNDAY
OCTOBER 28
1PM - 3PM**

**\$5 PER
PERSON**

2018 Delaware River Watershed Fellowship

By Derek Scott

Last month, the second year of the Delaware River Watershed Fellowship wrapped up at PEEC. Two young professionals, Caitlyn Coffin and Truth Muller, were hired in an effort to engage our local community, emphasize the importance of stewardship and help PEEC reach and engage new and underserved audiences. The goal was to introduce as many new people as possible to their local trails and waterways, in addition to PEEC, as well as the steps they could take to help restore and protect the Delaware River Watershed.

Our two fellows began their journey back in June, when a collective of Watershed Fellows from 22 other centers, brought together by the William Penn Foundation, met at PEEC. This orientation to the fellowship served to strengthen the bonds between a diverse network of nature centers, land trusts, and watershed associations and set the standard for the summer season. Inspired by the collaborative effort of 43 other like-minded individuals, Caitlyn and Truth wasted no time developing the foundation for their capstone project.

The approach to the capstone would be two-pronged: improve PEEC's social media presence and create free weekend



programming in an attempt to engage a new and diverse audience of constituents. By posting more regularly on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram, the goal was to reach a demographic of clients that may have been previously untapped through conventional marketing strategies. To draw these potential constituents to PEEC, Caitlyn and Truth developed a free series of programming over 4 weeks called "Watershed Weekends." Each of these weekend events was themed around a different aspect of our watershed – everything from reptiles and amphibians, to plants and birds. The hope was that by focusing on what constituents already appreciated in nature, we could cultivate an appreciation for the watershed as a whole and encourage practicing good stewardship.

Following the culmination of the Watershed Weekends, Caitlyn and Truth presented their findings to the collective of fellows and their supervisors from other centers at a summit at John Heinz Wildlife Refuge. The results of their capstone surpassed the original expectations and set the framework for improving PEEC's user base in the future. Over 4 weekend dates, the programs saw a total of 177 users with 14 first time family groups visiting PEEC. In total, program participants saw 161 different species of plants & animals and had such a great experience that they requested similar events in the future. What surprised us the most was that all of our new visitors had heard about the programs through our social media pages. At the beginning of the season, we had only been averaging 176 post views per day. By the end of Caitlyn and Truth's time at PEEC, that average had increased to a staggering 1,109 post views per day with over 250 new social media followers in just a few short weeks.

Moving forward, we hope to continue the work that Caitlyn and Truth have done to continue to expose new users to all of the wonderful experiences PEEC has to provide. I wish both of them the best in their future endeavors and hope the work they did this summer inspires our future watershed fellows.





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FUNGUS AMONG US

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21
1:00PM - 3:00PM



Take a lichen to fungus!

\$5 PER PERSON



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Pocono Environmental
Education Center



INTRODUCTION TO ORIENTEERING




SUNDAY
OCTOBER 14
10AM-12PM

\$5 PER PERSON

C is for Country Hunter - A Look at the Short Eared Owl

Continued from Page 1

the nest. After mating, the pair stays together, although only the female will incubate the eggs. She will lay generally 4-7 eggs at one time, but if there is plentiful food in the area, the number of eggs could go up to a dozen. The male provides food for the female and, after the babies hatch, mother will divide the food for them. Owlets fledge at about one month of age.

The breasts of these owls are streaked with brown, while their chests are more of a light tan color. Their wings are barred at the ends. The flight pattern of this owl has been likened to that of a moth, flopping due to the irregular wingbeats. At an adult size, the wingspan is about three feet long.

If you want to hear the cry of this owl, check out this website: https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Short-eared_Owl/sounds

As I learn more about owls that can be found in Pennsylvania, I am amazed at all there is to know! Who knew that some owls are not just nocturnal and when they fly they resemble moths? I didn't before, but I do now! For the next issue of Seasons, I will share more about owls as we are up to letter D – The 'Dichromatic' Screech Owl!

Sources:

https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Short-eared_Owl/id

<https://www.audubon.org/field-guide/bird/short-eared-owl>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Short-eared_owl

PEEC's Harvest Festival

By Ricky Bennett, Special Events Coordinator

PEEC will be hosting its 8th annual Harvest Festival on Saturday, October 6th, 2018. The event will take place from 11 a.m. until 4 p.m., rain or shine. New to our Harvest Festival event for 2018 will be our "reduce, reuse, recycle" scarecrow contest.

PEEC's Harvest Festival is a fun, holistic opportunity to learn more about sustainability, the local environment, and a chance to connect to nature. Families are invited to stroll around the exhibits, support local businesses, or simply enjoy an interpretive hike. There will also be awesome crafts and plenty of games to play! For a more casual experience, come and relax among friends, grab a bite to eat, and listen to live music. The cost to attend is \$5 per car and includes a live animal show and much, much more. Food and drink will also be available at an additional cost.

Crafts will include face painting, stick wands, and PEEC's popular tie-dye station. Tie dye can be a great way to add additional years to old or lightly stained clothing. Bring white cotton shirts, pillowcases, bandanas, or other items to add a creative color burst. A limited number of white bandanas will be available for purchase. Vendors and exhibits at the 2018 festival provide a way for community members to meet and interact with local organizations, businesses, and artists.

PEEC's 2018 River Days event will also take place during Harvest Festival. Join us for interpretive hikes and paddle programs to encourage use of the Delaware River watershed and enter a free raffle for a chance to win a kayak or inflatable raft.

Our Harvest Festival is more than a festival; it is time spent with family and friends, a time to slow down and enjoy nature, a time to rejuvenate. Come be a part of our community; we have something for everyone.



Sources:

<https://www.google.com/search?q=recyclable+scarecrow&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiGg4-nzpDdAhWHZd8KHXl2AJwQsAR6BAgFEAE&biw=1440&bih=794#imgsrc=Qp0pASSGt175RM:>

Sources:

<https://www.google.com/search?q=recyclable+scarecrow&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwiGg4-nzpDdAhWHZd8KHXl2AJwQsAR6BAgFEAE&biw=1440&bih=794#imgsrc=icS7TsQLLLrbOM:>

Cancer-Root: The Case of the Mysterious, Parasitic Plant

By George Johnson

“Is that a really weird-looking pinecone?” That was my first thought when I came across this bizarre plant the other evening while hiking. I’d never seen anything like it on any of my forest adventures, so I immediately wanted to know everything about it. I took some photos of it and the surrounding area for my future investigation into the identity of this bizarre white and brown creation.

Back at home, I was able to identify it. Turns out, it’s a plant that goes by the common names Squawroot or Cancer-Root.

I can probably guess what you’re thinking, “Cancer-Root! You should probably get checked out by the doctor!” Don’t worry. It doesn’t cause cancer. The name Cancer-Root comes from the unique way this plant grows. You see, Cancer-Root isn’t like most plants. Most plants make their own food. They use chlorophyll (the pigment that makes plant leaves green) to turn sunlight into energy they can use. It’s a process called photosynthesis.

But Cancer-Root doesn’t have chlorophyll. It can’t make its own food. So how does it live? It’s a parasite. It steals nutrients from other plants, particularly oaks. When its seeds land in the soil, they sprout roots that burrow into the ground in search of a host plant’s root. If they find one, the Cancer-Root attaches to it. The host reacts by forming a bulge where the roots meet. That bulge resembles a tumor, hence “Cancer-Root.”

What I saw on my hike were the Cancer-Root’s stem and scale-like flowers. They bloom when a plant reaches 4 years old. Depending on where you are, you can spot these flowers beginning anywhere from April to July, and they’ll then persist through the summer.

I found this odd little plant over in New York, but it can also be found in Pennsylvania. USDA lists Cancer-Root as “Exploitably Vulnerable.” This means Cancer-Root has the potential to become threatened or even endangered if its habitat is at risk. These plants typically prefer older forests with a lot of oaks. Woods that have had their oaks removed due to logging often lack suitable hosts, so Cancer-Root won’t grow there.

Do the woods you own or hike in have a lot of oaks? If they do, keep a sharp eye out for this cool-looking parasitic plant during your forest adventures.





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BRIDGE THE GAP
Come Out & Enjoy The Park!
DELAWARE WATER GAP
NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

PEEC BIKE OUTING

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13
1:00PM - 4:00PM



FREE



PEEC
Pocono Environmental
Education Center



SIGNS OF FALL

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21
10AM - 12PM



\$5 PER PERSON

Renewed Rhythms of Nature at Sunset Lake *By Dennis Miranda*



Meadow Fritillary

A new dawn has emerged on what used to be Sunset Lake at Hidden Falls Girl Scout Camp in Dingmans Ferry. In May 2017, the National Park Service and a host of conservation groups combined their efforts to buy the 1054-acre Camp Hidden Falls. The breached dam at Sunset Lake would have been a fitting eulogy, but it is not an endpoint, as nature clearly had other intentions.

This last spring, the muddy bottom of the lake attracted all sorts of birds. Spotted, Solitary and Least Sandpipers were glimpsed in April. A pair of Killdeer, a type of plover, stayed for a while, but did not breed here. Osprey and Bald Eagles raided the stream for fish occasionally. Great Blue Herons, no doubt from the PEEC rookery, would stand motionless and patiently as sentinels until a frog or fish emerged to be speared by the heron. Since this spring, the exposed muddy bottom of the former lake has transformed into a green, leafy lush of grasses, rushes and spikey flowers. In the summer, a kaleidoscope of color gave way to a purple cover of Valerian mixed with the pink hues of Purple Loosestrife.



Monarch Butterfly



Sunset Marsh Formerly Sunset Lake dam and the birth of a new natural area.

Amid this growth, cattails have colonized the wetlands, from the edges to free standing groves. Here a pair of Virginia Rails, a medium marsh loving orange bird with a red bill, was recently found. This pleasant surprise bodes well for the future since migrant birds often end up staying if the local food supply is plentiful. The rails could be heard grunting back and forth before launching an accelerated, descending series to each other. The elevated shoreline of Sunset Lake has become a narrow dry area that is converting to a meadow. Goldenrods, fleabane, wild bergamot and other flowers attract pollinators and beneficial insects. Bees and butterflies go about their business unconcerned about the world around them. On this given day, a Meadow Fritillary posed near a thorny thistle with fragrant pink flowers. A Monarch Butterfly perched regally on the uppermost flower as if on an altar presiding over its flock. Nature continues its march through the seasons. For Sunset Lake, life begins anew as Sunset Marsh, a fitting end to a man-made

A Summer Success!

By Stephanie Sherman

Another summer has passed and what a summer it was! This year we celebrated huge growth in our camp, from new program weeks to new partnerships. We enjoyed over three hundred camper weeks this year, with a number of our Junior Naturalist and Polliwog sessions filling up with excited kids. We look forward to bringing back Salamanders & Spells for even more magic next year and Forest Adventures brought on a new partnership with Archery Addictions of Walnutport. We look forward to having them return, along with Kathy Uhler of Pocono Wildlife Rehab, for All-Camp activities. This year, we also partnered with Ricky Boscarino, local madcap artist of Sussex County, to take campers to Luna Parc, his home and art studio, for a morning of upcycled artwork and a tour. We look forward to seeing him next year! And with our numerous trips into the Delaware Water Gap Recreation Area, we certainly had our fill of adventure. We travelled all the way from the Water Gap to Cliff Park and everywhere in between. Here's to seeing everyone again in 2019!



Grant Programs at PEEC *By Sheri Bone*

PEEC has been fortunate to be the recipient of grants from a variety of funders. We have completed most of the related programs this summer. Because of these grants, many students have been able to come to PEEC at a free or reduced rate and learn about our beautiful area.

The National Park Foundation (NPF) was able to extend the Every Kid in a Park (EKIP) program for the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area (DWGNRA) and PEEC last year. That allowed area fourth graders to visit the EcoZone and take a scavenger hunt hike, searching for items related to what they saw in the EcoZone. This program has been a favorite with the teachers because, not only is it related to what the students learn in their science and social studies classes, but it also gets the students to become aware of their surroundings!



We look for ways to fund local student visits, but also find ways to bring students from urban areas to PEEC. For the past five years, the Victoria Foundation and PSEG granted funding for the Newark Summer Science in the Poconos program. This past June, rising 6th and 7th grade students from Newark, NJ came to PEEC for a 4-day program. They not only learned about the natural environment, they overcame fears about being in a setting that is very different from their homes. Six schools were able to send a total of over 70 students and 11 chaperones for this highly successful program.

The William Penn Foundation (WPF) has been a generous funder of PEEC programs for a few years now. The Bridge the Gap (BTG) Program has grown due to funding that allows for more paddling experiences (both on our ponds and on the Delaware River), varied hiking adventures (including fossil walks and edible trail hikes), and general watershed related activities. Hikers and paddlers are invited to complete a survey so that we can improve future programming, and, thereby, receive continued funding. We are more than halfway to our goal of getting 1250 surveys completed by hikers, bikers and paddlers!

The WPF also funds our Women on the Water (WOW) and Boys in Boats (B2) program. For this program, high school students from the Philadelphia and Camden areas come to PEEC for a week-long river camping experience. During this time, they learn not only how to camp, canoe, and kayak, they determine water quality using a variety of methods. Since the Delaware River is one of the main sources of drinking water for Camden and Philly, it is important that the students take their findings about healthy rivers back to their neighborhoods and apply what they have learned when they get home. This year, five groups participated for a total of 75 students.

Sanofi Pasteur has been a generous supporter of our much loved “Sci Q Project” for rising 8th-10th graders. During this year’s week-long program, students participated in hands-on lessons from professors from East Stroudsburg University, took 2 field trips (canoeing through the Delaware Water Gap to learn about geology and visiting the Sterling Hill Mine Museum), and created projects on their own as they explored the many branches that make up the tree of science knowledge. Every year the project culminates with a race of water craft made by the students using only cardboard, duct tape, plastic garbage bags and gallon jugs. Twenty students from local schools, New York City and the Philadelphia area participated this year.

PEEC would not be able to offer as many programs to students if not for the generosity of our funding partners. Each year we hope to grow the existing programs so that we can serve more students and their caring adults. Thank you to each of our funders for supporting PEEC and its mission!



Weather or Not

By Mariann B. Oswald

Way back when I was a child living in West Caldwell, NJ, I remember cool summer days playing outside, pretending our “house” was under a huge pine tree with the rooms divided by raked up pine needles. We ran, climbed, rode our bikes, played in the brook and were never too hot. We didn’t have air conditioning. Truthfully, we didn’t even have a television set until the 1960’s. What else was there to do?

Hearing that it would be in the mid 90’s today had me wondering, was it all just a dream or was it really that much cooler and more pleasant in the 1950’s. Turns out it was no dream. The mean temperature on this day in mid-August 1957 was 68.2° F, the high being 79° F. In 1958, the mean temp was 76.8°F. I skipped a few years just to see what would happen and found that in 1960 it was 72°F and in 1962 69.3°F. That’s a far cry from the mid 90’s of today.

Then I thought, if it was that cool in the summer what was it like in the winter? I remember piles of snow so high that we dug tunnels and made forts. I was disappointed to find “NO DATA” for snow levels, but the temperature was enough to give you chills. Randomly choosing December 25th, I went back to 1957 and found that it was a balmy 38.4°F. 1958, though, was only 19.6°F and in 1959 it was back up to 32.3°F. Skipping ahead, in 1961 it was 27.3°F and in 1962 it was 26.5°F.

My conclusion? During my formative years, the weather was tolerable, if not pleasant. Therefore, playing outside was not a chore, but rather something to look forward to each day.

Fast forward to 2018 and it is an entirely different story. My 5 year-old grandson would rather sit on a couch in an air conditioned room playing Minecraft on the X-Box than go out in the torturous heat. Forget riding a bike or climbing a tree... way too ambitious. And, to tell the truth, I don’t blame him. I’m not that anxious to sit outside and watch, much less play with him in this heat. So, why? Why is it so much hotter? Why is it so much drier in the southwest? Why are there flash floods in the northeast? What exactly has changed? What can we do?

Weather patterns. Weather is the state of the atmosphere at any given time and place. Climate is the long-term average of the weather in a given place. “Scientific studies indicate that extreme weather events such as heat waves”, of which we have had several this year, “and large storms are likely to become more frequent or more intense with human-induced climate change,” according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Average temperatures have risen across the US with an increased rate of warming over the past 30 years. All of the warmest years on record, worldwide, have occurred since 1998. Record-setting daily high temperatures have become more common than record lows. Total annual precipitation has increased, but, certain areas, such as the Southwest, experience less precipitation. Intense single-day events have risen in recent years. Tropical storm activity has increased over the past 20 years. Large floods have become more frequent in the Northeast, Northwest and northern Great Plains.

But, what causes the change and can or should we do anything about it? There are many simple actions that individuals can do to make a difference. Moderately speaking:

- Become vegetarianish. Greenhouse gas emissions from animal agriculture could be as high as 51%.

- Eat organic grown without synthetic fertilizer.
- Buy locally manufactured products made with locally-sourced materials. I may have to move to Hershey.
- Live in the climate. Don’t keep the temperature at 70°F year round. If you have children, raise them in the climate.
- Line dry your clothes. Clothes last longer, less fossil fuel is used, and your bills go down. What’s not to like. Besides, they smell better.
- Go with your feet. With the grocery store 17 miles away, I think I’ll have to skip this opportunity.
- Reduce and reuse before recycle. Recycling uses less energy than making new, but reducing and reusing are cleaner. Buy food and other products with reusable or recyclable packaging.
- Plant native, drought-resistant trees and shrubs.
- Use an electric or push mower instead of a gasoline-powered mower.
- Use high-efficiency model appliances.
- Use compact fluorescent bulbs.
- Use solar heated system to provide hot water.
- Insulate your home, clean a/c filters, install energy efficient showerheads.
- Purchase a fuel efficient car.

Number one in my book is... SUPPORT ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION. Children are what they learn.



PEEC
Pocono Environmental
Education Center



LITTLE EXPLORERS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28
10:00AM-11:30PM - BATS

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

**\$5 PER
CHILD**

AUTUMN PROGRAMS AND GETAWAYS

2018

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

TO REGISTER:

Call PEEC at 570-828-2319



OCTOBER

Columbus Day Family Camp Weekend
Columbus Day Weekend: October 5 - 8
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
PEEC in the splendor of autumn. Animal
presentations, canoeing & kayaking, nature
hikes, crafts, campfire and more! Price includes
three nights of lodging and meals from Friday
dinner to Monday lunch.

Harvest Festival
Saturday, October 6
11:00am - 4:00pm
\$5 per car

Celebrate Fall at PEEC's 8th annual Harvest
Festival! Enjoy animal presenters, art & crafts,
hands-on activities, conservation exhibits, live
music, local food, old-timey activities, & more!
Bring your family and friends to this great event!

Vacation Nature Camp: Wild Wayfarers
Monday, October 8
9:00am - 4:00pm
\$40 per person
Come take a walk in the wilds as we create our
own hiking sticks and take an adventure out into
the Delaware Water Gap! Gardes 3 -5 only.

Fall Photography
October 12 -14, 2018
\$290 Full Workshop / Commuter rates
available

Capture the beautiful fall colors of the
Delaware Water Gap with certified professional
photographer, Kathy Peoples. 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 for a great hands-on experience
capturing the beauty of autumn under the
guidance of an amazing teacher!

Bridge the Gap: PEEC Bike Outing
Saturday, October 13
1:00pm - 4:00pm
FREE

Join us for a bike ride along the McDade Trail!
We will provide all equipment and transportation.
Please bring a water bottle and wear sturdy
footwear. We will have extra water and snacks
available. Please register as soon as possible as space
is limited. Funding for this program provided by
the William Penn Foundation.

Introduction to Orienteering
Sunday, October 14
10:00am - 12:00 Noon
\$5 per person

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.
Space is limited - call early!

Ecozone Discovery Room
Sunday, October 14
1:00pm - 4:00pm
\$2 per person

Climb into a bald eagle's nest, crawl into a bat
cave, explore a beaver lodge 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 Festival
Saturday, October 20
9:30am - 4:00pm
\$25 full day

Attention all Bears, Webelos and Boy Scouts!
Join us for a fun day of badge work! Bears will
work on Fun, Feathers and Ferns. Webelos will
work on the Into the Woods adventure (pre-req:
do one of 1-4). Boy Scouts will work towards
the Mammal Study badge (pre-reqs 3; bring a
camera). Scouts must be supervised at all times
by a parent or troop leader. Payment is required
at registration. Space is limited - call early!

Signs of Fall
Sunday, October 21
10:00am - 12:00 Noon
\$5 per person

Take a hike with us and discover the science
behind the wonderful season of fall. We'll
discuss changing animal behavior, why leaves
change color and why it's the best season to be
out and about!

Fungus Among Us
Sunday, October 21
1:00pm - 3:00pm
\$5 per person

Search for fungus and lichen as you learn about
the amazing world of decomposition and
nutrient cycling. No collecting will be done
within the park.



Continued on Page 10

Continued from page 9

OCTOBER



Girl Scout Badge Festival
Saturday, October 27
9:30am - 4:00pm
\$25 full day for Brownies, Juniors /
\$5 for Cadettes and Seniors
Attention all Girl Scouts! Come to PEEC for a fun day of hands-on badge work. Brownies will work Outdoor Art Creator and Senses badges, Juniors will focus on their Camper badge (call for overnight options). Cadettes and Seniors will work on service projects for the Girl Scout Ranger Program. Scouts must be supervised at all times by a parent or troop leader. Payment is required at registration. Space is limited - call early!

Little Eco Explorers: Bats
Sunday, October 28
10:00-11:30am
\$5 per child
A fun hands-on program for young children! Join us for a story, craft, and activity focusing on bats. Call for details.

Fire Building
Sunday, October 28
1:00pm - 3:00pm
\$5 per person
Learn some primitive and modern fire making skills. Try your hand at a flint and steel and more! Ages 10+ please.

November



Ecozone Discovery Room
Sunday, November 4
1:00pm - 4:00pm
\$2 per person
Climb into a bald eagle's nest, crawl into a bat cave, explore a beaver lodge 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.

Flying Needles – Fiber Arts UFOs
November 8-11
\$280 Full Workshop-Call us for day rates
Join other crafters and Patti Shreiner while finishing your knitting, quilting, or other fiber art works-in-progress (WIPs). Other small projects include holiday cards and button earrings. Includes lodging and meals!

Ecozone Discovery Room!
Saturday, November 17
1:00-4:00pm
\$2 per person
Climb into a bald eagle's nest, crawl into a bat cave, explore a beaver lodge, 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
Saturday, November 17
6:00-8:00pm
Cost \$35 per person
Enjoy the bounty of the season at PEEC's 8th annual game dinner! This dinner features local game and seasonal harvests. Bring your friends & family to enjoy this cozy evening. Call early to guarantee a seat.
5pm - Reception in the Ecozone.
6pm - Dinner in the Dining Hall.
This program sold out in 2015, 2016 & 2017!



Create Your Own Walking Stick
Sunday, November 18
1:00pm - 4:00pm
\$25 per person
Spend the afternoon with us as we create handcrafted walking sticks. Wood, tools, gloves and aprons will be provided, as well as suggestions and pointers on how to personalize your work. Pre-registration is required.

Animal Tracking
Sunday, November 25
10:00am - 12:00 Noon
\$5 per person
Animals leave behind clues that give us glimpses into their lives. Explore our natural areas for tracks, trails, scat, territory marks, chew marks and other signs animals leave as they travel through the fields and forests of the Poconos.

Vacation Nature Camp: Animal Adventures
Monday, November 26
9:00am - 4:00pm
\$40 per child
Get up close and personal with the PEEC animals as well as learn to track our native beasts in the park. Grades 3 - 5 only.





PEEC
Pocono Environmental
Education Center

VACATION NATURE CAMP

Wild Wayfarers - Monday, October 8
Come take a walk in the wilds as we create our own hiking sticks and take an adventure out into the Delaware Water Gap!

Animal Adventurers - Monday, November 26
Get up close and personal with the PEEC animals as well as learn to track our native beasts in the park.

Snow Survival - Thursday, December 27
Animals survive, can your camper? Join us and learn the secrets to winter shelters and fire building.

Winter Wings - Friday, December 28
It's fight or flight for our feathered friends. Campers will search for winter snow birds and create bird feeders for home!

**NOW
ENROLLING!**

570.828.2319
www.peec.org/camp

\$40 PER CHILD
9:00AM - 4:00PM

**GRADES 3 - 5
ONLY!**

SIGN UP ONLINE AT
PEEC.ORG/CAMP

camp@peec.org
www.peec.org