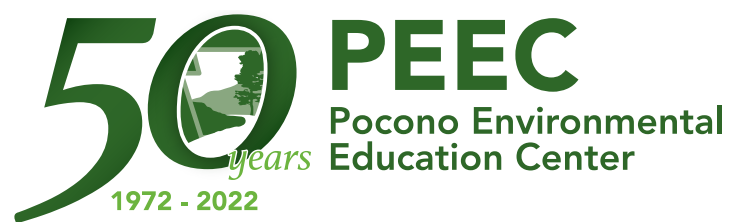


2021 Annual Report





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The Pocono Environmental Education Center (PEEC) advances environmental education, sustainable living and appreciation for nature through hands on experience in a national park.

VISION

"An environmentally enlightened world"

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This year, I am inspired to talk about gold for a good reason. Gold is all around us.

Gold has an intrinsic value, and thus traded and used to back currency...thus the "gold standard." Gold medals are the top award in almost every competition, and gifts of golden jewelry are exchanged to signify significance in relationships.

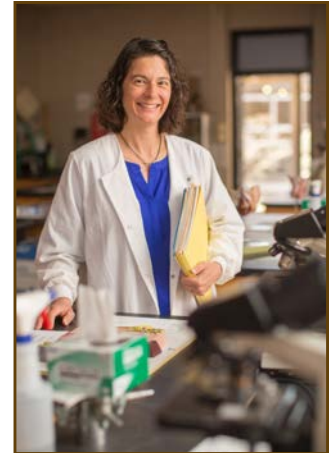
How many colloquial sayings are golden? As a child, I was taught the "golden rule" and told I need to be "as good as gold." I value those in my life who have "hearts of gold" and I think my children are each "worth their weight in gold." Even silence is said to be golden.

Neil Young's classic (and endless) search for a "Heart of Gold" topped the charts in 1972, but when I hear him singing "I've been to Hollywood... I've been to Redwood..." keeps me searching for a heart of gold," I can't help but think that he was searching in the wrong place. He should have been hiking the 77,000-acre Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, home of the Pocono Environmental Education Center.

PEEC is golden. You can see it in the native Brown-eyed Susan and Prairie Dock blooms and on the bodies of their busy pollinators. You can see it when the sun's rays touch the surface of Pickerel Pond and on the thorax and wings of dragonflies that dart around. You can see it in the teaching staff, aglow with knowledge, and in the bright faces of their students, eager to learn. Of course, in 1972 when Neil Young was also singing that "I'm getting old," PEEC was just getting its start.

1972... Fifty years ago. FIFTY YEARS! I think that calls for a celebration. Please join me and the rest of the PEEC family in celebrating PEEC's GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY on October 8th where you are certain to have a golden time!

~ K. Joy Karnas, Ph.D., Chair of the Board of Trustees



*K. Joy Karnas, Ph.D.,
Chair of the Board
of Trustees*

PEEC People



*Jeff Rosalsky,
Executive Director*

PEEC Management Team

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Director of Business Management.....	Kirsten Larick
Director of Development.....	Joel Penkala
Facilities & Physical Plant Manager.....	Ted Wetzel
Head of Maintenance.....	Marc Wetzel
Director of Education.....	Stephanie Sherman
Director of Operations.....	Derek Scott
Director of Group and Grant Coordination.....	Emma Roth / George Johnson
Public Program Manager / Volunteer Coordinator.....	George Johnson / Kate Hausman
Asst. Summer Camp Director / Special Events Coordinator.....	Nathan Lanan
Program Planner.....	Sara Neral
Dining Hall Manager.....	Erin Taylor / Alissa McDermott
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Instructors & Interns

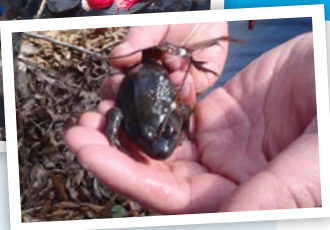
Kelly Bosloper, Emily Byron, Gabrielle Colarusso, James Frye, Monica Gosselin, Kaitlyn Korblick, Yessenia Mendez, Justin Murray, Sara Neral, Andrew Ouellette, Holli Saar

Take a PEEC!



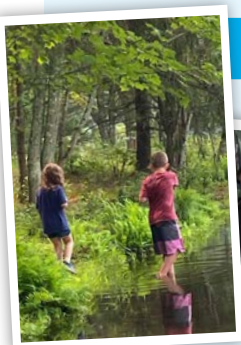
Bridge the Gap

In its 9th Year of funding by the **William Penn Foundation**, 28 free and low-cost programs were hosted with 339 visitors, helping to “Bridge the Gap” between the local community and the environment. Programs included Pond Paddle, Introduction to Fishing, River Paddle, Evening Pond Paddle, Edible & Medicinal Plant Walk, and Spring Peeper Search.



WATER! Program

We were able to host two school groups from Philadelphia in 2021 thanks to funding by the **William Penn Foundation**. One hundred ten students from PA School for the Deaf and Mastery Charter Schools spent several days at PEEC learning about the Delaware River Watershed and its effect on their local area.



Summer Camp

Summer Camp continued with record-breaking numbers in 2021. PEEC hosted 10 weeks of camp from mid-June to mid-August, including two early sessions in addition to our regular season. With a new high of 393 camper weeks for 2021, we exceeded the 2020 record of 363! Our Volunteer Counselor program also saw growth in 2021 as we welcomed 8 new and returning high school students gaining experience in the job of camp life. PEEC Camp also took another step towards normal as our kids once again enjoyed off-site field trips into the National Park and to Akenac Lake.

Fast Facts

Public Programs: 2,090 participants attended 110 staff-led programs. Harvest Festival successfully returned in October with approximately 444 visitors to that fun-filled day.

Scout Programs: 64 Scouts (Girl Scouts and Scouts BSA) attended PEEC Badge Fests and worked on a variety of badges including the Backpacker and Mammal Study merit badges, Animal Habitat Badge, and Outdoor Adventurer Badge.

Volunteers: 42 volunteers spend numerous hours at PEEC on trail maintenance, outdoor and indoor general cleaning, folding trail maps, and as EcoZone volunteers.

Take a PEEC!

PEEC Into the Classroom

This grant funded program continued to increase in momentum. The programs were a mix of virtual and in-person events. Currently, we offer 9 different in-person classes and 11 different virtual programs. We have increased grant funding as well to continue developing the program. For the spring 2021 and fall 2021 season, we hosted 117 programs and interacted with approximately 2,327 students.



Watchers on the Water

Our Watchers on the Water (WOW) program for Philadelphia and Camden students, funded by the **William Penn Foundation**, continued to bring in new students and expose them to the challenges and wonders of the Delaware River. Between 5 schools, 15 nights were spent camping along the river in all sorts of weather. Not every trip had the best weather, but all 85 individuals came off the river with smiles and a new sense of confidence.



The Sci Q Project

The Sci-Q program is a great opportunity for rising 8th-10th graders, eager to pursue careers in science, to get together for a week immersed in scientific discovery and outdoor activities. Nineteen students hiked, designed and built "rockets" out of 2-liter bottles, canoed, and competed in student-designed cardboard canoe races. Field trips and presentations by college professors were also a part of this science-filled week funded by the **Victoria Foundation, ThorLabs, and TC Energy**.



In Their Own Words...

"We loved working with you guys and we appreciated it so much that you guys volunteer your time to teach us outdoor skills and everything. I have learned a lot from you guys. I will carry those skills on with me as I graduate high school. I really liked going to PEEC I look forward to visiting this summer. Thank you again for everything!! I wanted to say I really enjoyed the overnight camping trip. That was a great experience and a memory that I will not forget. Thank you for making that happen for our club!"

- **Wilderness Club, East Stroudsburg Area School District**

"Stephanie came in to the fifth grade classroom as part of The American Readers Theatre's program focusing on the classic story of Charlotte's Web. We had requested a presentation on spiders, and she was TERRIFIC. She really engaged the students. She went over the anatomy of a spider in a fun way, did an art project with them, and even brought in a real spider! The presentation was fun, and informative! Thank you Stephanie and thank you PEEC!"

- **Ruth Hadley, American Readers Theatre**

Education & Operations Updates

Education Updates

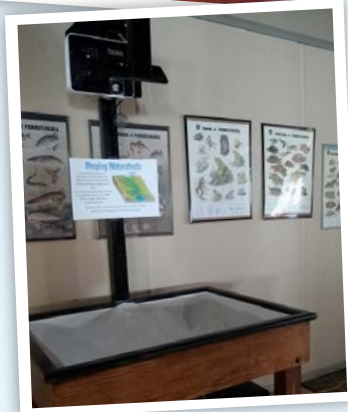
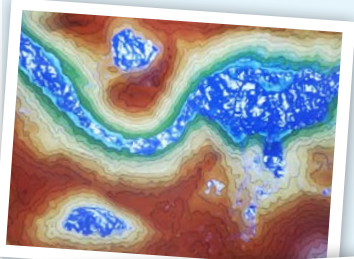
We saw a total of 36 groups return to PEEC for in-person programs; slowly life is returning to the wilds of the PEEC campus!

- **Spring:** Kudos to our 7 spring school groups who joined us for day and residential programs, being the first students and teachers at PEEC in over a year!
- **Summer:** We welcomed back both the **Easterseals Growing Green** program for special needs individuals and **Camp Jamison** for in-person, sleep-away camp. We missed those smiles!
- **Fall:** We welcomed back over 400 **Princeton University** students as we resumed our partnership in their freshman orientation experience, as well as hosting more than a dozen additional groups.



Operations Updates

- We made significant repairs to our snowshoes and are now equipped to outfit over 40 participants at a time. This more than doubled our previous capacity to get people out on the trails during the winter months for programming.
- **New Exhibit:** PEEC has a brand new exhibit – the Augmented Reality Sandbox. This hands-on exhibit allows users to shape real sand to form topographic models which are then augmented by elevation color maps, contour lines, and simulated water. The result is an incredible teaching tool that provides 3D visual representations of geographic, geologic, and hydrologic concepts that update in real time and allows for a great representation of the ways humans alter and impact the world around us.
- We would like to thank the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection for funding the creation of the augmented reality sandbox. It is our hope that the exhibit will prove invaluable in our watershed-related programming due to its engaging nature.



Fundraising & Financial Report



Our 5th Annual 100 for \$1000 fundraiser raised over \$96,000 for PEEC in 2021. In this non-event fundraiser, 100% of all donations go toward PEEC and environmental education.

Thank you to our generous donors!



In this second year for the Scranton Area Community Foundation's NEPA Gives Day, PEEC was again the recipient of a fundraiser challenge award. We received over \$4,000 in donations including a \$500 NEPA Good Neighbor Award.

	2020	2021
Revenue gains other supports		
Instructional Fees	172,169	432,030
Grants	677,188	381,076
Grants - COVID		802,671
Contributions	150,630	142,642
Fundraising	23,655	32,068
Investment Income	5,397	4,686
Net Unrealized (loss) Gain on Investments	1,742	1,836
Gift Shop	3,657	8,974
Other Income	—	—
Total Revenue, Gains and Other Support	1,034,448	1,805,983
Expenses		
Instructional / Program Services	837,366	1,113,680
Management and General	93,330	110,626
Development and Fundraising	2,856	7,010
Total expenses	933,552	1,231,316
(Decrease) Increase in Net Assets from Operations	100,896	574,667
Net Assets, Beginning of Year as Previously Reported	812,181	913,077
Net asset, ending	913,077	1,487,744
Depreciation	38,397	34,675
Other Adjustments to Reconcile Changes in Net Assets	20,562	65,934
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities	159,855	675,276
Net Cash Flows from Investing Activities / Payments for Property & Equipment	(46,529)	(18,173)
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities	132,248	(16,299)
Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents	245,574	640,804
Cash and Cash Equivalent: Beginning of Year	519,615	765,189
Cash & Cash Equivalent: End of Year	765,189	1,405,993
Supplemental Disclosures:		
Cash Paid During Year for Interest	1,203	3,252



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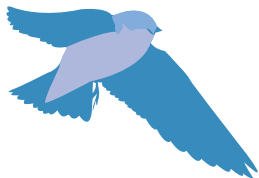
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In Memory of Ryan McLaughlin

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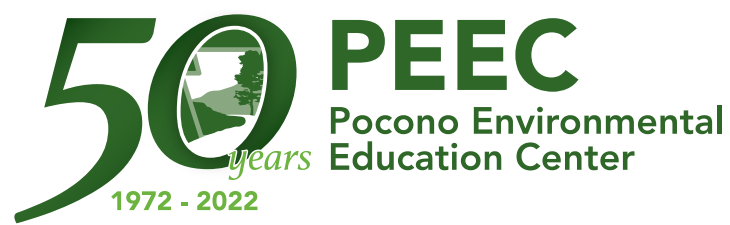
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