



River Otters and Data Loggers dominate Spring Event

Evergreen Conservancy's spring event was dominated by presentations about Data Loggers and River Otters.

April 8th's spring event was opened by Cindy Rogers and John Dudash demonstrating a new tool in the battle against contaminated water. Evergreen Conservancy has taken the lead in using this technology in Indiana County streams. At present we have installed four data loggers, and expect six more within weeks. By next year we should have 20 installed and will be downloading the data. The data logger can monitor a stream's quality when there is no human nearby. It can identify when and where a pollution incident occurs on a stream.



Pat Snickles, Wildlife Conservation Officer, from Northern Indiana County, followed with an informative and entertaining presentation about river otters. Their presence in Indiana County waters has just recently been demonstrated.

"Remember the night when they had to set up more chairs", is a quote that could apply to April 8, 2011. Attendance pushed 60 persons with many of them new to Evergreen. Both presentations generated a lot of questions.

Evergreen conservancy awarded additional grants!

Dominion Mini Grant: We were awarded Evergreen Conservancy a grant for \$1,700 for help with operations (insurance costs) and Marketing. Look for new signage at the Tanoma Wetlands and a sign on Rt 286 to help locate our Tanoma site.

Colcom Foundation Grant: We were awarded a grant for \$26,300 to purchase and install additional water monitoring equipment to monitor water quality in our county streams and headwaters. We have recently purchased five data loggers and the and will be installing them within the next month. We will be continuing to work on this project throughout the summer.



Board President Cindy Rodgers accepted the award for the Dominion Mini Grant handled by Western PA Conservancy



A Record Day cleaning up the Hoodlebug Trail

I had a bad feeling about Evergreen Conservancy's plans to clean up the trail on Saturday April 23. Rain was in the forecast. It was even raining when I left Indiana, but when I passed the former Omni on old 119 South the sun came out. I was surprised to see a record number to help in the clean up. I would even call it a record number of bags of trash -12. My crew was done at 11 a.m. The nice weather held up through the entire morning. Thanks to Carl Trout, John and JoAnne Ferraro, Chelsea Capelle, John Somonick, Vince Mayaully, Paul Hicks, Tim Slippy, Di Che, Kelsey Mlnarik, Gene Lewis, and Bob Lankard.

By Bob Lankard

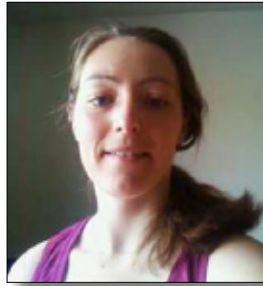


OUR MISSION:

To advance the preservation, protection and stewardship of Natural, Cultural and Historical Resources in and around Indiana County, PA

IUP Intern joins Evergreen Conservancy for The Summer.

Hello to all Evergreen Conservancy members. My name is Deborah Diehl and I will be working with you over the summer starting in June as an intern. I have a background in biology from SUNY-ESF, NY and currently working towards an IUP Masters Degree for Geography and Environmental Planning. Alongside Cindy Rogers (as my supervisor) and Katie Oberthaler, I will be assisting in several projects over the next few months. Native plant signs will be made for Tanoma AMD site to help walkers on the trail



Intern Deborah Diehl

identify any additional native plants that they may see around the ponds. Maps of watersheds in correlation to the stream data loggers will be created to assist with the collected water quality data. This will be used in the future by the Geoscience Department at IUP. Also, partnered with Katie O., we will take an initiative shortly to begin brownfield research. With this project, we hope to become active participants to change the local community. I am looking forward to meeting and working with all of you over this summer to accomplish these projects and more

Family Fun Fest at the Mall

Evergreen Conservancy hosted a table at the 8th Annual Family Fun Fest at the Indiana Mall on March 19. Playing on the theme of "Oh, The Things You Can Do!" volunteers challenged children and adults to think of ways to conserve water. We were also able to premiere our new Enviroscope wetlands model to teach visitors how wetlands affect our water resources. Children enjoyed drawing their favorite animals with our homemade iron oxide chalk. In total, over 1,000 kids attended the event. Many thanks to Malcolm Hermann, Gulzhamal Adylova, Aisuluu Alymbekova, Joanne Ferraro, and Bob Lankard for helping with our booth!



Katie & Gulzhamal

Evergreen Celebrates Earth Day at IUP Campus

Katie and Cindy braved the cold spring weather to celebrate Earth Day on IUP campus. They demonstrated chalk making with iron from Tanoma and talked to visitors in the Oak Grove.

We Now Have a Face Book Page.

Katie (VISTA volunteer) created a new face book page for Evergreen Conservancy. If you do Face book, please go to our new page and tell us if you like it. We can send you event notices and update you with current events! [Like](#)

Our New Website Has Gone Live!

Evergreen's website has undergone a major overhaul thanks to Robert Bronwlee. Check us out at the same address: www.evergreenconservancy.org. We have a wealth of new information on our datalogger stream-monitoring project, environmental education activities, and event details and photos. Stay tuned as we post regular content about our upcoming and past activities!



April 9th Was Volunteer Day

Cindy Rogers picked up 4 IUP volunteers at 9 am and They spent about 3 hours helping to paint and refurbish our story book frames for Tanoma. Thanks goes out to Faith Ambrosini, Jon Montgomery, Devan Mercer, Matt Grassi, and Katie Oberthaller for their help!



WHAT WE CONSERVE:

Wildlife Habitat • Stream Access • Scenic Vistas • Land in need of Restoration • Working Landscapes • Historic • Cultural Sites

Evergreen Conservancy Project Updates visit our web site to learn more about these projects www.evergreenconservancy.org

Tanoma:

- Our renewable energy project is nearing completion: The solar panels have been up and running since last fall. They survived the winter and will soon be joined by our new wind and water turbines. We are looking at a target date of June 1st for the annual member pot luck dinner and programs.
- We are waiting for the DEP to present it's plan to renovate the treatment system.
- DEP tested our iron oxide and found it to be high in iron but contain nothing toxic. We are good to go to use it in art projects and for other uses.
- We had trapping done at Tanoma this year and the muskrats seem to be under control, with a minimal number caught this winter.

Water Monitoring:

- We have installed and are currently monitoring four data loggers.
- John Dudash, John Somonick and Cindy Rogers have been attending township supervisors meetings to demonstrate the data loggers and explain what Evergreen is doing to monitor our streams so they are aware of what we are doing and can ask questions. We have also been asked by the County Commissioners and Don White to demonstrate our monitors and talk about our project.
- We will be installing additional data loggers in surrounding creeks in the next few weeks.
- If you have a creek of concern or would like to volunteer with this project please let us know. We would appreciate volunteers to help with the installations and also to help go out once or twice a month to download the data.

Canoe Launch

We are working with Western Pa Conservancy, PADOT, and local agencies to create low impact boat launches. We would like to have one in Homer City and one on the Little Mahoning Creek.

Board Members Needed

Are you interested in the environment? Do you want to help? Become an Evergreen Conservancy board member... Go to the Evergreen Conservancy Website and print the board application and mail it in today!

If you believe that we need to protect our planet, visit www.GoodPawsGoodCause.org, an on-line store for good people and good pets!

10% of every Fur The Earth™ purchase benefits Evergreen Conservancy and The Conservation Fund.

Thanks to GoodPawsGoodCause for their year-end donation to Evergreen Conservancy.



Join Evergreen Conservancy Today!

Support the all-volunteer Evergreen Conservancy and its mission through your membership.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Membership Levels:

_____ \$15: Student _____ \$25 _____ \$45 _____ \$70 _____ \$100

_____ \$1 Youth (17 and under) _____ \$ Other _____ \$75: Business/Org

Additional Donation: \$ _____

Complete this form and send check to:

Evergreen Conservancy, PO Box 0783, Indiana, PA 15701



**Many Thanks for the good-good Java that
THE COMMONPLACE COFFEEHOUSE & ROASTERY
donates to Evergreen Conservancy events!**



Annual Meeting to be held at Tanoma

Evergreen Conservancy's 2011 annual membership meeting will be held Wednesday June 1 at 5:30 pm at the Tanoma Outdoor Educational Center.

The annual meeting will give members a chance to see our new renewable energy projects put to use. Slow cookers, lights, and the computer for the PowerPoint presentation will be powered by our wind turbine, solar panels, and a water turbine.

Other than the location the 2011 annual meeting will follow a familiar format. We will begin with a covered dish dinner for Conservancy members and friends. The board will provide hot dogs, rolls, condiments, and drink. You provide the rest. We will continue with the precedent of not telling you to bring a salad, desert, or other side item. You should bring your own table service.

Several years ago Indiana was one of a few counties that did not have a natural heritage inventory. It was a controversial issue. Evergreen Conservancy led in the effort to get the survey started. It has now been completed and Chris Tracey, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, will tell us what was learned.

Following Chris's presentation Conservancy members will be given the opportunity to vote on members of the board. John Dudash, Jason McGinnis, and Bob Lankard will be up for reelection. There are two vacancies. If you wish to become a member of Evergreen Conservancy's board there is an application on our web site. Please complete the application and send it to Evergreen Conservancy, P.O. Box 0783, Indiana, PA 15701.

The annual membership meeting is also when Evergreen members can renew their membership. Having a paid membership is also a requirement for you to vote on board members. If you are a friend of Evergreen you will be given opportunity to join. Please check our Web Site www.evergreenconservancy.org for membership details

Perhaps you have never been to Tanoma Outdoor Educational Center. This would be a chance to check out our self guided trail, Don Robertson Pavilion, alternate energy projects, and Story Walk.

You can help! – Adopt a Bridge

Would you like to adopt a bridge, or part of a bridge, as a donation to support Evergreen Conservancy? Each of the bridges cost \$650. We will put names of contributors on each bridge or a name in memory of a loved one.

Please send contributions to:
Evergreen Conservancy, P.O. Box 0783, Indiana, PA 15701



Evergreen Events Calendar:

June 1, 2011 - Annual Membership pot luck – Tanoma AMD Wetlands Program on the Natural Heritage Inventory AND our official “Turning On Ceremony”

July 1, 2011 - Board Meeting - 1005 Oak Street, 2nd floor

August 10, 2011 – Activity Day at Tanoma with Camp IQ

September 2, 2011 - Board Meeting - 1005 Oak Street - 2nd floor

November 2, 2011 Board Meeting - 1005 Oak Street - 2nd floor

Committees meet in June, August, October - see website for dates

October 1, 2011 - put it on your calendar - our 4th Annual Tanoma AMD Wetlands Educational Site event!