



"Improving Our Quality of Life"

Spring Newsletter, 2012 #25

www.evergreenconservancy.org

PO Box 0783, Indiana, PA 15701

info@evergreenconservancy.org

February 14, 2012 IUP Into the Streets at Tanoma

On Saturday, April 14th seven IUP volunteers and several of our board members came out to Tanoma to help Evergreen do maintenance and other chores. They dug post holes and installed six new plant identification signs, painted the frames and installed our new story book walk, "The Sheep Take a Hike", and helped move rocks in the pond's final overflow to adjust water level.

They were a really big help and we sure do appreciate it! Thanks to Dan Boone, Malcolm Hermann, Cindy Rogers, Megan Baskerville and Stacy Robertson for helping with the work and shuttling the IUP volunteers.

Many thanks to our volunteers, Cameron Miller, Samantha Rakowski, Kayleigh Cehily, Debbie Diehl, Norman Hunt, Casey Trimble, and Juli DiStanislao!



New Plant Signs at Tanoma

We have six new plant identification signs at Tanoma. They have been installed along the wetlands trail. Look for Wild Basil, May Apples, Green Dragons, Bitter Dock, Teasels, and Queen Ann's Lace.



"Sheep Take A Hike"

Come on out to Tanoma AMD Wetlands with your children or grandchildren. Pick a nice spring day and take a walk around Tanoma. Read our new story book walk, "The Sheep Take a Hike". There are about 28 pages and our young friends should really enjoy it. Thanks to the Indiana Free Library for the laminated book pages.



OUR MISSION:

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

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Environmental Education News

- Evergreen had a table at the Family Fun Fest at Indiana Mall in March and a fun time was had by all with our demonstration table of renewable energy, and our table top wind turbine. A big thanks to all the members who helped staff the table!
- Cindy Rogers presented a program on water monitoring for 3 ninth grade classes at Indiana High School in April. Evergreen thanks Linda Jones for the opportunity to share information and talk to her classes.
- Thirty-five students and several teachers and parents visited Tanoma in April from the Divine Redeemer Catholic School in Ford City, PA. They learned about the passive system that cleans up mine discharge and had the opportunity to do some water testing and talk about the results. After lunch at the pavilion they learned about renewable energy and did some interactive activities about wind, water, and solar power. Thanks to Megan, Dan, John and Cindy for working with the groups.
- Girl Scouts are scheduled on May 19th to visit and earn two different badges. We will offer two sessions, one to earn the Brownie Bug badge and one in the afternoon to earn a Junior Flower Badge.

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



Evergreen Conservancy Project Updates

Visit our web site to learn more about these projects... www.evergreenconservancy.org

Tanoma:

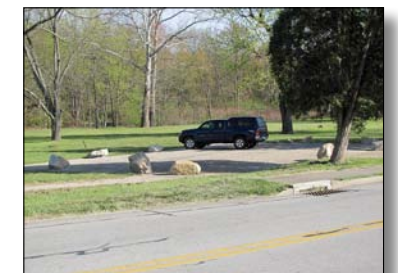
Work was done on weirs and incoming pipes to increase the dissolved oxygen in the water. We are tracking the DO levels. DEP toured the site and will be doing additional work. At present there is still too much water coming into the system to be totally treated. We are working with DEP to make additional changes and hopefully increase the efficiency.

Water Monitoring:

- Our datalogger water monitoring project is continuing to gain momentum as we continue to install dataloggers and train more volunteers on the data collection process in the field. We have now installed 26 dataloggers and are working with a more volunteers to work in the field to make the downloads. We have done upgrades on the data logger software and yearly maintenance.
- 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.
- If you are interested in becoming a water monitoring volunteer with this project, please contact us at info@evergreenconservancy.com. Time commitments vary, and we are looking for volunteers to come on our bi-monthly uploads when their schedule allows!

Canoe Launch/Take out in Homer City – It Became a Reality in April

Homer City Borough, Indiana County Planning Office, PENNDOT, Western Pa Conservancy and Evergreen Conservancy came together to make a new low-impact boat launch a reality in Homer City. The Borough did behind-the-scenes paper work and all the construction work on the project. WPC funded it with a boat launch grant. If you start at Two lick Waterworks Park above Sixth Street and float to Homer City it is a nice 2½ to 3 hour float and an easy shuttle. Evergreen volunteers will be planting blueberry bushes around the parking lot to finish it off. Evergreen is helping the Borough look for another grant to build a pavilion and put up signage at the site. If you want to help plant the bushes contact Cindy Rogers and she will be sure to let you know when we will be doing the planting! (If it's not finished by the time you read this.) Thanks to all involved! Most of the blueberry bushes were donated by Twolick Valley Nursery and Musser Nursery. Much thanks to them!



WHAT WE CONSERVE:

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

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.



April 21, 2012 Hoodlebug Trail Clean Up

Evergreen Conservancy's spring clean up of the Hoodlebug Trail was conducted Saturday morning, March 21st. The good news is that again we had a great turnout. Also, it appears that people are taking more care not to litter the trail as we only had eight bags. In previous years there was a full bag for each person. However there was an on and off drizzle through the morning, but not too bad as the weather was warm. Members of the clean-up crew were pictured in the Gazette. Thanks to those who helped: John Somonick, Carl Trout, Cindy Rogers, Bob Lankard, Tim Slippy, JoAnne and John Ferraro, Deb Diehl, Deb and Harry Patterson, Paul and Doris Hicks, and John Dudash.



Don't Forget To Check Out Our Evergreen Website
www.evergreenconservancy.org For The Latest News.

Find Us On facebook

If you use facebook, 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! Become our Friend. [Like](#)

Evergreen Conservancy – Grant Work

- We continue to work on our Colcom and Growing Greener Grants. We are purchasing and installing data loggers. The web site created by IUP to keep our data is up and running.
- Dominion Mini Grant: Evergreen Conservancy was awarded \$800 from Dominion through Western Pa Conservancy at a ceremony in April. This money will go toward our insurance costs.



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



Girl Scout completes her Silver Badge by installing blue bird boxes at Tanoma

Rachel Johns and her family installed six blue bird houses at Tanoma in April that she made for her Silver Badge project, the highest award that can be earned by a Girl Scout Cadette. She decided to do her Silver Award after visiting the Tanoma Wetlands for a Girl Scout Cadette badge program in 2010, and saw there was no habitat for the birds. Mike Schaffer, Environmental Educator at Yellow Creek State Park, was her advisor for the project. Hopefully blue birds will take up residence and we will be able to see them from the pavilion. Thanks to Rachel for choosing Evergreen's Tanoma site for her blue bird houses!



FISHERS... Have you ever seen one?

Evergreen Conservancy's spring event was about the fisher, a member of the weasel family. The main attraction was Wildlife Conservation Officer Patrick Snickles' presentation on fishers at the Blue Spruce Lodge on Friday April 20th. They are an animal that for a long time was unknown in Pennsylvania, but has been reintroduced. Mr. Snickles himself saw one in Marion Center. The day after the program board member Dan Boone spotted one at Tanoma. Mr. Snickles' table of pelts got a lot of attention. At least 40 people attended the program some of whom were new to Evergreen Conservancy.



Evergreen Award

June 6th at our Membership Meeting Evergreen Conservancy plans to announce the recipient of The Evergreen Award, an annual recognition of someone, a group or businesses in or around Indiana County who shows exemplary leadership in protecting or preserving our environment by implementing green practices or doing service in an environmental field. We would like your help. If you know of anyone who might fit the following criteria we would like you to nominate them for our new award. Send your nominations to info@evergreenconservancy.org.

The criteria for this award is:

- New or innovative technology to prevent harm to our environment
- Participation in activities that show a direct positive effect on our environment
- Participation in activities that resulted in the preservation of a historical, cultural or natural resource.
- Participation in activities of notable stewardship of the environment.

Thanks for your help!

Evergreen Conservancy will hold its annual membership meeting Wednesday June 6th at the Tanoma Environmental Education Site

Evergreen Events Calendar:

- May 8, 2012 – Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- May 13, 2012 – Mother's Day Walk and Tea at Blue Spruce Park for Friends of the Park
- May 19, 2012 – Girl Scouts at Tanoma
- June 6, 2012 – Annual membership meeting at Tanoma
- July 2012 – Tourist Bureau mingle at Tanoma – specific date to be announced
- September 2012 – Chamber of Commerce at Tanoma – specific date to be announced