



Third Annual Evergreen Award Goes to Karin Eller

At Evergreen Conservancy's annual meeting on June 10th, 2014 the third annual Evergreen Award was presented to Karin Eller, founder and operator of Plant-it Earth located in the Black Lick area. Previous Evergreen Award recipients include LeeRoy Vatter and the late John Novak.

Ms. Eller had been nominated by three separate people, Dr. Tony Palemone and Dr. Whitt Watts of IUP, and Senator Don White. Dr. Palemone noted that the business, although located in the relatively remote Black Lick area and based on a farfetched idea, had become successful and was an immersive experience when one visited.

Dr. Watts said that people traveled to southern Indiana County from as far away as Pittsburgh just to patronize Plant-it Earth. Senator White commended Plant-it Earth for preserving the best that Indiana County nature has to offer.

Dr. Lea Masielo, Paul and Doris Hicks, Dreama VanCise/Watta, Sid Reger, and Bob Lankard helped select Ms. Eller for the Evergreen Award.



Husband Paul accepted the award along with Karin.

Evergreen Conservancy Annual Meeting Was a Busy Time

Evergreen Conservancy held its annual meeting on Tuesday June 10th at Tanoma. As usual we began with potluck picnic. The food table was quite full with hotdogs and hamburgers, southern BBQ pork chops, homemade desserts, and veggie burgers.

The main part of business at the annual meeting is when members elect members to the board. This year John Dudash, Bob Lankard, Jason McGinnis and Stacy Robinson were re-elected to serve full terms. We also welcomed new elected board members Jon Miller, Treasurer and Rebecca Snyder.

Evergreen Conservancy gets most of our work done by their volunteers especially in tending to the data loggers. Those who have been checking these machines for a year were recognized.

This is the tenth year that Evergreen Conservancy has been an official non-profit. The organization began

with a series of meetings at Rustic Lodge to discuss the possibility of forming a conservancy. John Dudash read the names of persons who signed in at the first meeting. A number of those were in attendance. Cindy Rogers and Brooke Esarey gave a ten-year account of our accomplishments.

Cindy also discussed some problems with how the system is working at Tanoma. She briefly explained a process called Trompe System, which would help with the on-going inadequacies of the Tanoma treatment system. A video was continually running that more fully explained what it would do.

Evergreen Conservancy also recognized the lifetime achievements of Dr. Robert Eppley, who was a guiding force in the Blacklick Creek Watershed. Dr. Eppley was unable to attend and Jim Lafontaine of the watershed group accepted the award for Dr. Eppley.

OUR MISSION:

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

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.



New Board Member, Becky Snyder

Becky recently retired as the General Manager of Fluid Recovery Services in Creekside, Pa after 30 years in the oil and gas industry. She has a B.S. degree in Biology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and currently is a member of the Environmental Committee of the Pennsylvania Independent Oil and Gas Association. She is also the Treasurer for the West Penn Energy Association, an energy education non-profit.



Becky Snyder

New Board Member, Jon Miller

Jon has a Masters of Business Administration from Indiana University of PA, and a bachelors in Business Administration from Slippery Rock. He has a background in accounting, financial, and limited legal in relation to volunteer work. He served in the office of auditor and board secretary to a nonprofit group in Pittsburgh, Interplay Childcare Center and was a volunteer in various other group. Jon moved to Indiana for a job at S&T bank and has agreed to become our treasurer.



Jon Miller

Lifetime Achievement Recognition Given to Dr. Robert Eppley

Dr. Robert Eppley was recognized for giving a lifetime of volunteer efforts in the cause of water quality at the Evergreen Conservancy annual meeting on June 10, 2014. Dr. Eppley was the heart and soul of the Blacklick Creek Watershed. Dr. Eppley provided leadership from the organization's inception in 1994. He was a coalition builder by making coal mine operators partners rather than the enemy.

In 2003 the Blacklick Creek Watershed was the recipient of the governors Award of Environmental Excellence in the watershed category. Due to illness Dr. Eppley was unable to accept the recognition personally. Jim Lafontaine attended as a representative of the Blacklick creek Watershed and accepted the award for Dr. Eppley.

Fundraising... You can help

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How does AmazonSmile work? AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. Just choose Evergreen Conservancy as your organization. To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to smile.amazon.com in your web browser. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases.

Evergreen is also pleased to announce that we were awarded a grant from the THE NORCROSS WILDLIFE FOUNDATION, INC for \$710. The money will be used to purchase a much-needed new computer and software for our VISTA AmeriCorps volunteer.

Thank you to those who participated in Ruby Tuesday Community Giveback program!

**Ruby
Tuesday**

Evergreen's Website

www.evergreenconservancy.org

For The Latest News.

On Facebook

If you use Facebook, please go to our page and tell us if you like it. We can send you event notices and update you with current events! Become our Friend. [Like](#)

And on YouTube:

[About Evergreen Conservancy – crNa11j5J2M](#)

[Tanoma AMD Wetlands – yaGLM4Ob8Ks](#)

[Renewable Energy – S3VOATx0mRY](#)



If you wish to learn more about Evergreen Conservancy please check our new and improved website www.evergreenconservancy.org.

Northern Appalachian Folk Festival

Save the date and come on down to Indiana to enjoy music, workshops, lots of great kids entertainment and activities, vendors and food! September 4th, 5th, and 6th. Go to www.northernappfolkfest.org for more information.



Educational Programs

June 2, 2014 Brooke, Sean and Cindy attended a Project Wet Workshop that Evergreen set up in Ford City. Several other teachers and interested folks also attended the training. It was full of fun water-related activities that we can use in our environmental education programs.

June 21, 2014 – Brooke and Cindy helped a Blairsville Girl Scout Brownie Troop earn their bug badge.

July 9, 2014 – Cindy did a plant ID walk with a group of 4th and 5th graders at 4H camp in Blairsville. One of the most favorite activities was washing their hands with a plant! (Soapwort or Bouncing Bet – *Saponis officianalis*)

July 15, 2014 – Group of ten 4 and 5 year olds from Indi Kids arrived at Tanoma to take a nature walk, look at the iron in the water, make chalk with that dried iron, take a walk and read our story book walk and make pinwheels. A great time was had by all!

July 16, 2014 – Cindy did a plant walk with another great 4H group in Clymer. The kids learned about plants on their walk and even got to taste a few edible plants.

August 6, 2014 – Brooke conducted macro invertebrate activities with a 4H group, made bug houses and played educational games.

August 9, 2014 – Sally and Brooke presented a water cycle activity to Girl Scouts with more educational games.



Conferences

Members of Evergreen Conservancy attended several conferences this summer. Brooke attended the River Rally, a collaboration between River Network and Waterkeeper Alliance, in Pittsburgh in May. She also attended the Abandoned Mine Reclamation Conference, cohosted by WPCAMR and EPCAMR, in June. She walked away with a better understanding of AMD sites that helped in writing a proposal for Tanoma AMD improvements. Brooke and Cindy also attended 3RiversQuest conference held at Duquesne University. This was especially informative on what is going on in the Allegheny, Monongahela, and Ohio River watersheds. We learned about other monitoring initiatives and research being done in the 3 rivers.

Apartment Needed

We are seeking affordable housing in the Indiana area for an AmeriCorps volunteer, starting November 2014. Tenant will have a bachelors degree and work full-time with Evergreen. Volunteers receive a very small stipend, so housing cannot exceed \$300/month. This is ideal for Indiana residents with small apartments or spare rooms for rent, or those seeking a roommate. If interested, please contact us at (724) 471-6020 or evergreenconservancy@gmail.com.

WHAT WE CONSERVE:

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

Tanoma Updates

New signs have been installed, which not only welcome visitors; they explain the site more fully, acknowledge our supporters, and list activities that are not permitted.

Funded by the Dominion Foundation, which is dedicated to the economic, physical and social health of the communities served by Dominion companies. The grant program is administered by the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy in commitment to its core mission of conserving Pennsylvania's diverse ecosystems through science-based strategy, leadership, and collaboration.



The Blairsville Knotweed Festival was held on Saturday, September 16th. Evergreen Conservancy had a table at the event and our new "Indiana Iron" tee shirts were eye-catching and inspired conversation about who we are and what we do. Thanks to Carol Cummins, Becky Snyder, Brooke and her mom, and Cindy for manning the table and making sales.



Upcoming Dates

- September 6th 10:00 – Weed Walk with Cindy Rogers in Indiana, during the Northern Appalachian Folk Fest, starting near the stage.
- September 27th – Into the Streets – IUP students will help with various projects
- September 18th – Ohio River Watershed Celebration Thursday
- October 19th – Weed walk with Cindy Rogers at Blue Spruce Park for Friends of the Park
- November 15th – The Fall program on rain gardens with Barbara Hough at the Blue Spruce Lodge.



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

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