

“Improving Our Quality of Life”



Fall Newsletter, 2014
#35

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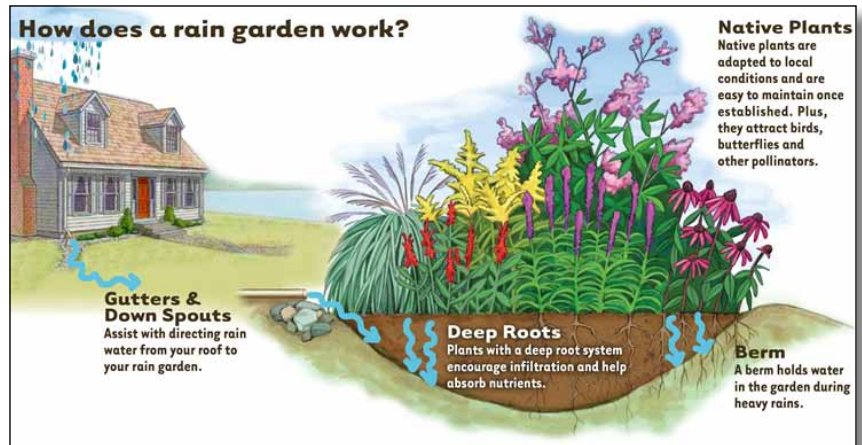
Planting Rain Gardens Presented by Barbara Hauge

Saturday, Nov. 15, Blue Spruce Lodge, 7 PM

What is a rain garden? What are they used for? Where can I see one in Indiana County? Barbara Hauge, Landscape Architect of InHouse Architects, will present information about how rain gardens can be used to manage stormwater, control flooding, and beautify your property.

Light Refreshments will be served.

This event is free and open to all!



Youth Volunteer Team in Indiana County

Evergreen hosted an AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) team for nearly two weeks at the end of this summer. The group was made up of 7 young adults from across the country who pledged 10 months of their life to do public service.

In our area, this group volunteered at Tanoma, Homer City Boat Launch Park, and Yellow Creek State Park. The team volunteers 214 hours and community members volunteered 95 hours for these projects. We worked on the renewable energy display at Tanoma, installed community gardens (and more) at the Homer City Park, and stabilized a stream bank at Yellow Creek.

We thank everyone who donated to the team, including food, supplies, equipment, and their time. We couldn't have done it without our great group of volunteers!

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.



Welcome our Newest Board Member – Janelle Revo

Janelle is an MBA graduate from Indiana University of Pennsylvania with over nine years of experience in the Internal Audit field. She is currently employed at Diamond Pharmacy Services as the Internal Control Manager and has prior experience working in the financial industry.



Janelle Revo

Fundraising

Fall is the time to for Evergreen to raise money to help fund our projects and do environmental education during the year. We set up tables at different locations and sell handmade items made from recycled and renewable materials. If you need a new corn heater (dried corn) to warm you through the winter, beautiful crafted wood items, iron oxide chalk for your grandkids or children, jewelry, swags or garland made of pine cones, corks and other natural things, tie dyed t-shirts, and many more items. Come on out and support Evergreen Conservancy while purchasing your Christmas presents or something special for yourself. We will be at:

The Indiana Free Library for Evening at the Stacks on November 7th

The IUP pottery sale on November 14th and 15th

The UU Church on Twolick Drive in Indiana at the Christmas Bazaar on Dec 6th

And you can always purchase items from our [web site](#).

Donations

Goodsearch App

Here's a quick tip... Supporters of your cause who have installed the goodapp can easily earn at least \$50 for your organization and most likely, lots more.

How? Easy -- the goodapp automatically generates a donation whenever they shop at any of our 3,000 participating goodshop stores (from Amazon to Walgreens) even if they don't come to our site first. It takes just 15 seconds to install and then the donations can add up quickly! Here's a link to grab the goodapp -- www.goodsearch.com/toolbar

To date, goodsearch has donated more than \$9 million and we're just getting started!

How Does AmazonSmile work?

When first visiting AmazonSmile, customers are prompted to select a charitable organization from almost one million eligible organizations. In order to browse or shop at AmazonSmile, customers must first select a charitable organization. For eligible purchases at AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the customer's selected charitable organization.



Share on Your Website or Blog

Place this link on your website, in your email newsletter, or in your blog to invite your supporters to support your organization by shopping at AmazonSmile. This will link your supporters directly to smile.amazon.com in support of your organization.

Evergreen's Websitewww.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](#)

The Facebook logo, consisting of the word "facebook" in white lowercase letters on a blue rectangular background.

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.

Evergreen Conservancy to Clean Highway 119S and the Hoodlebug Trail

Evergreen Conservancy will conduct a clean up of the Hoodlebug Trail and adjoining areas of 119S on Saturday November 1st, beginning at 9 a.m. Volunteers will meet at the Homer City ball field parking lot. Recently the clean up has taken less than two hours

To get to the meeting place take old Rt 119 south through Homer City (Main Street), go past the high school. Take the first right and follow about ¼ mile to a stop sign. Turn right and cross the Hoodlebug Trail, turn left and follow the trail to the parking lot.

Those wishing to help with this clean up should report to the ball field with gloves. Garbage bags will be supplied. The clean up will be conducted unless there is extremely bad weather. In this event an announcement will be made in the local media.

Farewell to Vista Volunteer – Brooke Esarey : ((

Thank you to everyone who made my time as an OSM/VISTA so wonderful. This past year has fostered my interest in non-profit environmental work. I hope I have helped Evergreen become a stronger organization, I know you all have helped me grow. I look forward to working with you all in my next role as Watershed Specialist for the Conservation District. Stop by and say hi!

**Welcome our New Vista Volunteer - Cassandra Allen**

Hello my name is Cassandra Allen. I enjoy the outdoors and everything from hiking and geocaching to boating and fishing. I am very passionate about the environment and wildlife, to the extent that I have a degree in Ecology, Conservation and Environment from IUP. I grew up on a chicken farm and spent most of my time in the woods adjoined to Yellow Creek State Park. During high school, I job shadowed Yellow Creek State Park's Environmental Education Specialist, Mike Shaffer. I had such a great time, that during college I went back to Yellow Creek for an internship. Since college, I have been working two jobs while raising two pygmy goats. Someday I hope to run a self-sustained homestead and teach others about the environment, sustainability and conservation. I am really excited to be the new VISTA volunteer and be a part of AmeriCorps.

**WHAT WE CONSERVE:**

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

Into the Streets

Five members of SNAP, Student Nurses of Pennsylvania, came to the Tanoma Wetlands and put in a 3.5 hour work session on Saturday September 27th. The IUP nursing students prepared and stained outdoor woodwork, shed, tower and bridge hand-rails. It was a beautiful work day; all the jobs were completed and clean-up was finished about 12:30pm. IUPs Office of Service Learning organizes this event each spring and fall, giving students an opportunity to volunteer for a wide variety of non-profits in the Indiana area.

The Evergreen Conservancy would like to thank:

Leah Walsh • Rachelle Albert • Jessica MacPhail • Brittany Brumbaugh • Lydia Shank • and the Office of Service Learning



Upcoming Dates

- November 1st Highway 119S Clean Up – Help needed to clean the trail.
- November 7th An Evening in the Stacks, Indiana Free Library. Evergreen Conservancy will have a table there – come on out and support the Library and Evergreen.
- November 14th - 15th . . . IUPs Pottery Sale, Robert Shaw Building, IUP Campus. We need volunteers to help at our Evergreen table 10:00 am -7:00 pm Friday and Saturday . If you can help for a few hours please let us know at evergreenconservancy@gmail.com.
- November 15th Fall Program at Blue Spruce Lodge on Rain Gardens – Please join us.
- November 30th Festival of Light, Blue Spruce Park. It has been our tradition to assist one evening collecting donations for the Festival of Lights at Blue Spruce Park. Note this is the last year for the event.
- December 6th Unitarian Universalist Church Christmas Bazaar – Come on out check out all the quality items for sale.



Join Evergreen Conservancy Today!

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

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____
 E-mail: _____

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



VISTA Training

The Appalachian Coal Country Team (ACCT) does trainings twice a year for our OSM VISTA position. This fall Cindy Rogers attended training in Beckley WV for 3 days. It was a time to network with other supervisors, meet other VISTA volunteers and learn about all the exciting projects they are working on in 32 different states. With its Support Office in Beckley, WV, the ACCT works throughout the Appalachian states and is now sponsored by Conservation Legacy. The Conservation Legacy organization operates and supports locally and regionally based conservation service programs. The VISTA program manages teams of educated young adults who provide service in communities challenged with issues of poverty by building local capacity, encouraging environmental stewardship, enhancing outreach and education and engaging in economic development.

Ohio River Watershed Celebration

A few board members attended the 13th annual Ohio River Watershed Celebration, held in September. This year the event was held in North Park in Allegheny County. There were lots of good presentations from watershed groups, PADEP, and consulting firms all trying to improve water quality in the Ohio River basin. We even took a driving tour of the Pine Creek Watershed and got to see stream bank structures, a stormwater project in Etna, and a rain garden in Shaler. Anyone interested should attend next year. Evergreen received a \$100 award for attending at least 5 of the past 13 years. Thank you for the award and for another great event!

Tanoma Update

With the NCCC team we moved the wind turbine to its new location. We built a platform to install the wind turbine and stained it. We hope to have the wind turbine back up and running this fall.

We have been testing the water every week to see how the system is working. Right now with the water so low it is at peak efficiency. The iron levels are coming in about 8 or 9 mg/l and leaving to go back into Crooked Creek at about .6 mg/l

We hope to hear if we will be awarded the Growing Greener Grant in November. It will fund a Trompe system in Tanoma and make our system work much more efficiency all year round.

Grants in progress

We are working on several grants and will be submitting a few more over the next several months.

- We were awarded a Norcross grant for a new computer and software for our VISTA volunteer. This is a needed item for our VISTA to be able to do her work. Norcross Foundation awards grants for program-related office and field equipment and materials and public-education materials. We are very thankful to Norcross for this grant.
- We were awarded an ARIPPA grant for \$1,250.00 to replace the batteries in our renewable energy system. Our current batteries were wearing out and were no longer able to keep a charge. This grant will help keep our renewable energy system working. Much thanks goes out to ARIPPA.
- In 2006, the Indiana County Conservation District (ICCD) completed the Bear Run Restoration Plan. Evergreen helped with initial funding for the project and in the past 8 years the Susquehanna River Basin and the ICCD have transformed this area. We were able to support the Bear Run Project again this year by obtaining an Office of Surface Mines (OSM) grant for 90,000 for the completion of the last phases (9 and 10). This was a huge project and for the first time in possibly a century or more, every station in Bear Run contains fish. In addition, three of the eight main stem stations contained either native brook trout or wild brown trout populations. Tom Clark is the Mine Drainage Coordinator for this successful project.
- In April of this year we received 3,500 of a 7,000 grant from the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies to support our cost share obligations for our VISTA volunteer. This helped pay for our share for 2013-14 year and will help pay our 2014-1015 share for our next VISTA. We are grateful to the Foundation for the Alleghenies for their continued support of our organization.

Environmental Education

October 4th Cindy and Brooke led a group of Webelos (Boy Scouts) through a program at Tanoma to earn a naturalist badge. The troop learned about AMD, water testing, wetland plants, geocaching, and much more.

On September 20 a brownie troop from Marion Center came out to earn their bug badge in September. Cindy and Stacey taught the girls about macroinvertebrates and got their feet wet in the creek.



Northern Appalachian Folk Festival

September 4th, 5th, and 6th Evergreen participated in the second annual Northern Appalachian Folk Festival. The Event included music, workshops, lots of great kids entertainment and activities, vendors and food!

www.northernappfolkfest.org

