



Spring Newsletter, 2014 #33

www.evergreenconservancy.org

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Evergreen Conservancy's Annual Meeting Will Be Loaded With Activities

Evergreen members and friends save the date June 10! It will be an annual meeting like you have not seen before. Evergreens Conservancy's annual meeting will be held at the Tanoma Wetlands Environmental Education center. Tanoma is at the intersection of Tanoma and Rayne Church roads between Clymer and Marion Center.

We will begin at 5:30 with our traditional covered dish picnic. The board will provide grilled meat, rolls, and condiments. Please bring one picnic style food item to share and your own place setting. We will not be able to accommodate a crock pot that you would expect to plug in.

EVERGREEN AWARD This year we will be honoring a person and their business for the third annual Evergreen Award. Their accomplishments are truly remarkable. Don't miss it!

ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS Once a year dues paying members will be given the opportunity to select members of the board. Several current board members will be up for reelection and we hope to present several new faces.

MEMBERSHIP If you are currently a member of Evergreen Conservancy it is time for you to renew your membership for 2014-2015. If you are just a friend of Evergreen take advantage of the opportunity to join with us. We have four levels of membership: \$25, \$45, \$70 and \$100. There are also special categories: students \$15, organizations/businesses \$75, and youth (17 and younger) \$1.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION We are a volunteer organization and we have so many wonderful volunteers to thank. People who do water testing, install and tend to the data loggers, help with our increasing number of environmental education classes, promote EC at community events, and clean up the Hoodlebug Trail will be recognized and thanked.

10TH ANNIVERSARY It seems hard to believe that we have been an official non-profit for ten years. Individuals who were active in founding Evergreen Conservancy, were board members in early days, speakers from our spring and fall events, and those who provided funding for our activities are all invited. It will be a great reunion. Please plan on attending!

POWERPOINT HISTORY Perhaps you were not around in the pre-conservancy days. You will learn why and how we came into being and some our early activities.



Into the Streets

A group of great volunteers came out to Tanoma for the "Into the Streets" event Saturday, April 12th. Volunteers helped install the storybook walk along the creek and pulled up old wiring to our wind turbine. The work day was a great success and helped us prepare for summer programs at the education center. Thank you to our volunteers! Evergreen has worked with the Office of Service Learning for several years and appreciates all their help. We'd also like to thank Indiana Free Library who donated the story for the storybook walk, "Walk a Green Path."

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.



Thank-You



Thanks to our intern, Alexander Patterson for his research on our data from our five telemetry data loggers. He analyzed the data over the last year. The data will help us know more about the waterways and how the parameters relate to each other. You can find the report on our website.

Much thanks to the Unitarian Universalist Church of Indiana for their generous donation this month through their 'Give Away the Plate' program. We appreciate their support and generosity.



*First Unitarian Universalist
Church of Indiana, PA*

Our Data Logger Field Collection Volunteers

Adam Cotchen, Carol Cummins, John Dudash, Brooke Easary, Ruth Ferrier, John & JoAnn Ferraro, Paul & Doris Hicks, Elizabeth Hovland, John Somonick, Katie Farnsworth, Paul Majoris, Ron Moretti, Cindy Rogers, Pat Scanlon, Sally Thornton, Paul Yacovone, Joyce Macisaac, Sue Watkins, Tamara Duff.
Former Volunteers: Dreama VanCise-Watta & Cynthia Watta, Carl Trout, Deb Klenotic

IUP Student Volunteers

Shannon Rogers, Tabby Dodson, Charlotte Smith, Olivia Ford, Megan Szymanski, Sean Dawson, Gretchen Bence, Alyssa Caffarelli, Chiffon Holmes, Allison Wilson, Lauren Frassenei

Trail Clean Up Volunteers:

Amy Binion, John Dudash, John and JoAnne Ferraro, Paul and Doris Hicks, Bob Lankard, Harold and Deb Patterson, Sally and Gordon Thornton, James Watta and Peggy Williams.

Tree Planting Volunteers:

Marion Center Teacher Tom Betts and his class of 41 high school students.

Call for Businesses in the Indiana Area!

Learn about 1% For the Planet at onepercentfortheplanet.org. Invest in supporting your county. Join 1% for the Planet and give back to your community by donations to the non-profit group of your choice. We hope you choose Evergreen Conservancy but we applaud any business that joins this worthy cause to help support a non-profit in our area!



Ruby Tuesday Community Give Back Program

Dine at Ruby Tuesday, 1414 Indian Springs Road, in Indiana on the following dates, and Ruby Tuesday will donate 20% of your purchase to Evergreen Conservancy.

6/6/2014 • 7/4/2014 • 6/13/2014 • 7/11/2014
6/20/2014 • 7/18/2014 • 6/27/2014 • 7/25/2014

[Click Here to Get the Coupon.](#)



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.

Evergreen Conservancy Picks Up Trash On The Hoodlebug Trail

Thirteen people turned out Saturday morning, May 3rd to do our semiannual trail cleanup. As usual it was a cool cloudy morning, but we did avoid a downpour. The volunteers were mostly Evergreen members plus a local resident and IUP student Amy Binion. The most interesting find was a full set of clothing – shirt, pants, and socks. (Apparently they kept their underwear.) The trail was in good shape after the winter. Most volunteers finished with their bags half-full. Thanks to Amy Binion, John Dudash, John and JoAnne Ferraro, Paul and Doris Hicks, Bob Lankard, Harold and Deb Patterson, Sally and Gordon Thornton, James Watta and Peggy Williams.

Project Wet Workshop

Evergreen Conservancy is happy to be sponsoring another great Project Wet Workshop. The workshop will be on June 2nd at Divine Redeemer School in Ford City. Teachers can earn credits for the program and all will walk away with a book and many new activities and ideas to teach children about water related topics.



Northern Appalachian Folk Festival

Evergreen Conservancy is supporting the 2nd annual Northern Appalachian Folk Festival. The Northern Appalachian Folk Festival (NAFF) is dedicated to preserving the past, promoting the present, and securing the future of folk music, art, and other forms of historical and modern cultural expression of the Northern Appalachian region! This year's Folk Fest consists of two days of free concerts, exhibits and workshops in the heart of downtown Indiana, PA. We'll also have a nice blend of artists, makers and food vendors to give you a taste of the Northern Appalachian region.

It takes a lot of infrastructure and items to put on a successful cultural event!

...But most importantly, we need YOU!

Your support through our Kickstarter will help NAFF acquire the funds it needs to pay for integral pieces of the folk festival. Be a part of the NAFF Kickstarter Campaign at www.kickstarter.com.

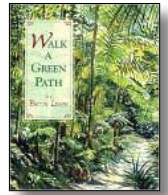


WHAT WE CONSERVE:

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

Tanoma Updates

Our new story book walk is up and ready for you to come out and read "Walk a Green Path" with your favorite young person! Our Tanoma passive treatment system is not working as efficiently as we would like it to. It still takes iron out of the water before entering Crooked Creek; but sometimes during the year when the water is high and the plants are not growing it is not as effective as it needs to be. There seems to be more water coming through the system than it was originally built to handle; and the flow is too strong to drop out all the iron. We are in discussions with Stream Restoration and the DEP to see what we can do to improve the system, especially in the winter. We are looking into the Trompe system and funding for that project. We will keep you posted.



Water Monitoring:

We have been busy this spring doing maintenance on the data logger sites. We have had to reinstall several sites after the hard winter and ice, but they are all cleaned, recalibrated, and back in the streams ready for nice weather! We have added two more sites this spring to bring our total number of manually downloaded loggers up to 34. We will be recalibrating and doing maintenance on our Telemetry loggers in the next few weeks. We are so fortunate to have a strong, steady group of volunteers who do the manual downloads on our data loggers and are pleased to welcome three new volunteers to our datalogger crew.

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 help do bimonthly uploads when their schedule allows! No experience necessary. We will train you to do the job.

New Grant Work

Reforestation Project: With a grant from the Appalachian Coal Country Team (ACCT) we completed a planting project on reclaimed mine lands.

To prepare for a tree planting on Arbor Day OSM/VISTA volunteer Brooke Esarey accompanied Dr. Angel and Dr. Larkin to the classroom of Mr. Tom Betts at Marion Center High School. Dr. Patrick Angel from the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement spoke to students about coal mine reclamation and the forestry reclamation approach. Dr. Jeff Larkin from IUP shared his research projects and how he influences conservation practices in the "real world." Forty-



one students from Marion Center, 2 science teachers, the PA Game Commission, and volunteers from Pennsylvania Senior Environmental Corps and Evergreen Conservancy planted over 3000 evergreen seedlings donated by PGC, 100 apple trees purchased with grant monies from the Appalachian Coal Country Team, and 12 American chestnuts donated by OSM and the American Chestnut Foundation on reclaimed mine lands. Thank you to everyone who helped, donated, and supported this event!



Dominion Mini Grant:

Evergreen Conservancy was awarded a grant at the annual award luncheon on April 11th. Cindy accepted our mini grant with thanks to Western PA Conservancy and the Dominion Foundation. Financial support for our project is provided 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 strategies, leadership, and collaboration. The grant funded our brand new signs at our Tanoma site. The signs welcome people to visit the site to learn about the abandoned mine discharge system, plants and trees, and read our outdoor story book walk while enjoying the outdoor experience.



DCNR Grant for Homer City

Homer City Borough received a grant to expand a boat Launch along Twolick Creek. The park will include a new pavilion, path, flower beds, and much more. Evergreen Conservancy will be an active partner for this project and is recruiting volunteers to help. We are hoping to get the go ahead from DCNR to start construction by June. If you're interested, please contact us! We will keep you posted.

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

Environmental Education News

- **Spring Program** - A Rain Barrel Workshop was held at Blue Spruce Lodge. Jim Resh of the Conservation District discussed the importance of non-point source pollution, stormwater, and ways to manage it. Jim showed around 50 participants how to build rain barrels and 10 lucky participants walked away with their very own rain barrel. We send our thanks to Jim, Indiana County Parks and Trails, and our volunteers for a great event!
- **Family Fun Fest** at the Indiana Mall
Evergreen Conservancy partnered with IUP's SEEDs group to offer activities about water conservation and to help kids understand more about water on our earth.
- **"Trout in the Classroom"** Release
Cindy Rogers, Anne Kolesar, John Dudash, and Brooke Esarey helped at a "Trout in the Classroom" release at Blackleggs Memorial Park. The kids had a great time learning about abandoned mine discharge, the water cycle, wildlife adaptations, fly casting, and macroinvertebrates. Thank you to Missy Reckner and Blackleggs Watershed Association for the opportunity to help!
- **ECO Earth Day Celebration**
Back in Indiana, Bob Lankard, Malcolm Hermann, and Sally Thorton participated in ECO club's Earth Day celebration in the Oak Grove at IUP. Our volunteers talked to students about the mission of EC and networked with other environmental groups.
- **YMCA Healthy Kids Day**
Volunteers got kids up and moving with a hopscotch course based on the 10 ponds at Tanoma AMD wetlands. As kids skipped through the course, pictures showed how the water gets cleaned through the system. We thank our volunteers Bob, Cindy, Stacey, Sally, and our intern Alex Patterson for their help!
- **Ford City School Field Trip to Tanoma**
Danielle Kephart of the Divine Redeemer School brought her 4th, 5th, and 6th grade classes out. The kids got to learn about animal tracks, make bracelets about the water cycle, have a relay race, and build bluebird houses. We thank all of our volunteers, the PA Game Commission for the track/scat demonstrations and donating the birdhouses, and the teachers, chaperones, students from Divine Redeemer for coming out. What a great bunch!
- **Townships' Officials Conference**
Brooke Esarey and Cindy Rogers manned the table for Evergreen Conservancy to talk to township supervisors and staff on May 9th at the annual Indiana County meeting. They shared information about our water monitoring project and showed visitors how our dataloggers work. Thanks to Malcolm Hermann of Municipal Publications for donating the Evergreen Ad to the brochure and assuring our table space.
- **Blairsville Girl Scouts learned a lesson on Wetlands**
On May 15th, Brooke and Cindy went to the meet of the Blairsville Brownie Troop to lead a lesson about wetlands. Some of the girls will be coming out to Tanoma to earn a bug badge early this summer.



Making Rain Barrels



Outdoor Classes in Tanoma



Hands-On Activities



Fun & Educational Activities



Data Logger Maintenance



Making Birdhouses



Water Testing

Evergreen Recent Events:

May 19th – Saltsburg School Program at Blackleggs Memorial Park

May 20th – East Pike Program

May 22nd – Pre-schoolers at Tanoma

More in our next newsletter

Evergreen Up-Coming Events Calendar:

June 10th – Annual Membership picnic and 10 year celebration. Save the date and please join us!

June – More environmental education programs will be conducted throughout the month.



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

