



## Newsletter, #73 Summer 2024

[www.evergreenconservancy.org](http://www.evergreenconservancy.org)

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### Plan To Attend Annual Meeting – September 18th 5:30pm, at ICCD

The annual meeting of Evergreen Conservancy members and friends has been rescheduled to September 18th, due to the heat wave. It will be held at the Indiana County Conservation District building, 435 Hamill Road. This again will begin with a pot luck picnic. Board members will be cooking hamburgers, hot dogs and vegetarian items. Please bring an appropriate side dish and your own table setting.

Always a main feature of the annual meeting is honoring the Evergreen Award recipient. This year Lisa Meadows, education specialist at Yellow Creek State Park, will be honored.

A program on riparian buffer zones will be

presented to the attendees. Our volunteers will be acknowledged for the many hours of help they provide.



Cindy Rogers will update you on activities of the conservancy over the past year and recognize new volunteers.

Members will be asked to vote on board members.

Please come to the meeting prepared to pay dues for the upcoming year, if you have not already.

E-mail invitations have been sent out, so please respond if you are able to attend. A reminder will be sent out this week.

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### Lisa Meadows is the 2024 Evergreen Award Winner

Have you been to any program at Yellow Creek State Park? Most likely then you met Lisa Meadows who has been selected to receive Evergreen Conservancy's Evergreen Award for 2024. She was nominated by Blake Mauthe, who is a watershed project coordinator with Indiana County Conservation District.

Ms. Meadow is an Environmental Education Specialist at Yellow Creek State Park. In that capacity she sees hundreds of people May through October with many educational programs she presents to visitors.

Interestingly it is not for her educational programs that she is nominated for this award – It is for her capacity as a mentor to budding young environmental professionals. Jessica Maran, vocational agriculture teacher at Penns Manor High School, wrote "she took me under her wing as a park volunteer and my love for environmental education only grew while watching her teach".

Lisa also helped Mason Frumkin become a game warden.

She was also cited for her support to Friends of the Parks in developing their programs; work with Plant Patrol in removing invasive species, partnering with the game commission, fish and boat commission, DCNR forestry, and the conservation district. She has developed at "Teach the Teacher" program and helped with the Envirothon.

Since 2012 Evergreen Conservancy has honored local environmental leaders with its Evergreen Award. Our first Evergreen Award winner was Lee Roy Vatter. Since then we have honored John Novak, Karen Eller of Plant- It- Earth, John Somonick, Alex Lezark, Dr. Katie Farnsworth, Anne Daymut, Tammie Robinson, Friends of Whites Woods, John and JoAnne Ferraro, and Ken Sink Chapter of Trout Unlimited. Elizabeth Brunner was awarded the Evergreen Award in 2023 and Dr. Robert Eppley received a lifetime achievement award.

### Board Members

Cindy Rogers - President • Shannon Kundla - Vice president • Becky Snyder - Treasurer  
Tara Binion - Secretary • Dan Boone • Bob Lankard • John Dudash  
David Janetski • Malcolm Hermann • Monica Lee • Emily Rahalla

### OUR MISSION:

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

## Learn About Chronic Wasting Disease September 13 At Blue Spruce Lodge

“Chronic Wasting Disease” are words that strike fear into deer hunters and wild animal lovers. What do you know about Chronic Wasting Disease? Are you up to date on the topic? Are your concerns realistic? You will be able to get up to date about Chronic Wasting Disease when Jon (JD) Walker discusses this topic Friday September 13th at Blue Spruce Lodge beginning at 7 pm. This presentation is free and open to the public and sponsored by Evergreen Conservancy.

Chronic Wasting Disease is a fatal neurological condition that affects deer, elk, caribou and moose. It's been around for a while – first detected in Colorado in 1967. It is similar to Mad Cow Disease. It was detected in Pennsylvania in 2012. A scary

fact is that deer may not show signs of this for up to two years after infection. At this time there is no evidence this disease is transmissible to humans.

State Game Warden JD Walker, program presenter, graduated from Marion Center High School. He is married to Jessica and has two daughters, Victoria and Briley. Prior to joining the game commission Mr. Walker had an extensive military career.

Again this presentation is free and open to the public. It is sponsored by Evergreen Conservancy. You may learn about Evergreen Conservancy by checking their Website – [evergreenconservancy.org](http://evergreenconservancy.org)

### New AmeriCorps

Hi there! My name is Rebecca Caldwell. I'm a recent graduate from Allegheny College with a B.S. in Environmental Science and Sustainability. This year I'm serving as an AmeriCorps member at the Indiana County Conservation District and Evergreen Conservancy. Last fall, I interned with Creek Connections doing water testing and environmental education activities with local schools in Crawford County. I'm excited about this opportunity to gain first-hand experience in field projects and outreach programming. In my free time I enjoy playing video games, traveling, and being with friends and family.

Best,  
Rebecca



### Dates to Remember:

September 10th .	6:00pm . . . . .	Evergreen Board Meeting at the Conservation District office
September 13th .	7:00pm . . . . .	Fall Program on Chronic Wasting Disease, Blue Spruce Lodge
September 14th .	9:00am . . . . .	Trash Pick Up, Blue Spruce Road
September 18th .	5:30pm . . . . .	Evergreen's Annual Picnic and Member's Meeting at ICCD
September 21st .	10:00am-12:00 noon .	Plant Patrol at White's Woods

### Plant Patrol

Plant patrol is seeking volunteers to help remove invasive species.

Join us Saturday, September 21, 2024, 10:00 am – 12:00 noon, at the White's Woods Nature Center

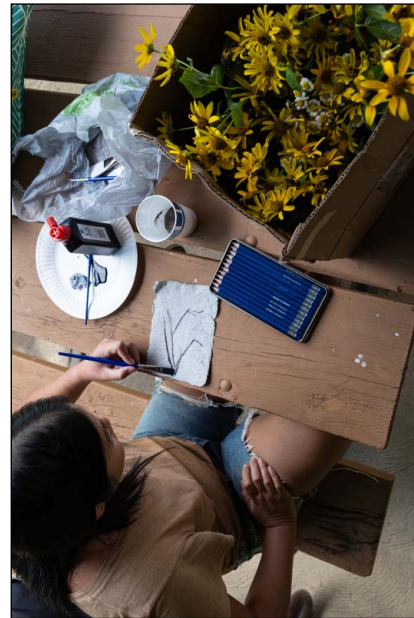
Check the website for information. [www.plantpatrol.org](http://www.plantpatrol.org)

## Nature's Canvas, Plein-air Event at Tanoma

Jean Wong, artist, hosted a unique plein air painting workshop at Tanoma where participants painted on handmade paper crafted from cardboard egg cartons infused with milkweed seeds. We used sumi ink, a medium traditionally associated with Chinese ink painting, to create our artwork. Afterward, we installed the paintings on a garden plot at Evergreen Conservancy, tying them together with jute string. Then paintings were watered and covered with a layer of soil. Over time, the paper will decompose, and, with any luck, a milkweed garden will take its place.

This project, which began in August 2023, is part of my ongoing exploration of how painting can extend beyond the gallery space and harmonize with nature, embracing the natural cycles of life and decay.

*Jean Wong*



## Environmental Education

- Evergreen Conservancy is hosting a tour of Tanoma Wetlands for the local Master Watershed Stewards in September.
- The Indiana County conservation district is holding the Jr. Envirothon at Blue Spruce Park all day on September 25th. The Envirothon is an environmental competition to challenge county school students in aquatic ecology, forestry, soils and land use, wildlife, and current environmental issues.

## Trash Clean Up September 14th, 9am

Evergreen Conservancy's previous trash clean-up of the roads of Blue Spruce Park on Saturday April 13th produced about eight full bags of garbage, collected by eight volunteers. Please meet at the parking lot at Blue Spruce Park nearest the Park Office on September 14th to sign in. Volunteers will be provided with garbage bags, gloves, and orange vests. Previous cleanups have taken about two hours.

## Renew your Membership

Please be prepared to renew your membership at the annual meeting, September 18th, if you have not renewed before.



## Memorial Trees Dedicated to Those We've Lost

On June 15, 2024 a Memorial Tree Dedication was held at the Indiana County Conservation District Office on Hamill Road. Among those honored were two individuals with long associations with Evergreen Conservancy: Jim Rogers who passed away in 2019 and Paul Yacovone who passed away in 2022.

Jim was a long-time supporter of Evergreen Conservancy along with Cindy Rogers, our current President. He served in the US Army 1st Armored Division and later graduated from IUP with a BS in Psychology. He was employed by the Communications Media Department of IUP, as well as owning his own photography business. Jim was also the president of the Friends of the Parks organization and was a volunteer at WIUP-FM for over 30 years. Everyone looked forward to his Sunday morning radio show on WIUP.

Paul Yacovone was an Evergreen Conservancy Board Member for a number of years, and also volunteered with the PA Senior Environmental Corps on water monitoring projects. In addition, he performed water testing at EC's Tanoma Wetlands Center and datalogger downloading for several Indiana County streams. Paul served in the US Navy during Vietnam. He was trained as an engineer who worked in private industry for a number of years and was later employed as the head of the Office of Surface Mining in Indiana, PA.

Jim's tree is a handsome Flowering Dogwood and Paul's tree is a sturdy Chestnut Oak. Each tree has a memorial plaque engraved with their names and the name of the dedicated tree. The ICCD Memorial Tree Program offers participants an opportunity to honor a family member or to remember a special event by donating a tree which will be planted on the educational grounds surrounding the facility. To find out more about this program, contact the Friends of the Indiana County Conservation District, 435 Hamill Road, Indiana, PA 15701.



A third memorial tree dedication will be held September 18th, at Tanoma prior to our Annual meeting at the Conservation District. It is in memory of Bob Curey.

## Membership Benefits

We are pleased to announce the following partners who have supported Evergreen Conservancy by giving discounts to card-carrying members of Evergreen Conservancy. Visit them, get your discount, and thank them for supporting Evergreen Conservancy!

Spaghetti Benders	15% discount	<a href="http://spaghettibenders.com">spaghettibenders.com</a>
Michael B's Shoe Store	\$10 off any purchase	<a href="http://www.michaelbshoes.com">www.michaelbshoes.com</a>
Plant-it Earth	15% discount	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/The-Plant-It-Earth-Greenhouse-And-Gardens">on FaceBook The-Plant-It-Earth-Greenhouse-And-Gardens</a>
Little Mahoning Creek Pottery	10% discount	<a href="http://www.nancysmeltzer.etsy.com">www.nancysmeltzer.etsy.com</a>
		<a href="http://littlemahoningcreekpottery.blogspot.com">littlemahoningcreekpottery.blogspot.com</a>
Artist Hand Gallery	12 oz. drip coffee \$1	<a href="http://theartistshandgallery.com">theartistshandgallery.com</a>



**JOIN OR RENEW your membership TODAY if you have not already done so for 2024.**

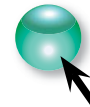
## Walmart Registry, a Reminder

Want to donate to the Evergreen Conservancy but not sure how? We have partnered with Walmart's Registry for Good and have registered for items that our organization needs. You can log on to Walmart.com, and under the drop-down menu, click on Walmart Services. You can then click on Registry for Good. It will direct you to a page that shows the registries in the Indiana PA area. Once you add the items to your cart, you can pay and

have them shipped to Evergreen Conservancy! It is that easy! Thank you to the folks who have donated to Evergreen Conservancy in this way. It is much appreciated!

Go to [www.walmart.com/registry/registryforgood/welcome](http://www.walmart.com/registry/registryforgood/welcome) and look for Evergreen Conservancy.

**Click Here to Help Us  
With Our Wish List.**



*Keeping Body and Soul Together...Naturally*

Mon-Tue: 9:00am - 6:00pm Wed: 9:00am - 7:00 pm Thu - Fri: 9:00am - 6:00pm Sat: 9:00am - 5:00pm

Please support Nature's Way market in Greensburg. They support us with a generous donation!



Thanks again for the generous donation from Nature's Way of Greensburg who belongs to 1% of the Planet. Next time you are in Greensburg stop by and say thanks to them!

1% of the Planet is a global network of businesses, nonprofits and individuals working together for a healthy planet. Businesses that join 1% for the Planet commit to giving 1% of total sales each year to your choice of our approved nonprofit partners. You can get involved! Joining is easy – go to [www.onepercentfortheplanet.org/tell-us-about-your-organization](http://www.onepercentfortheplanet.org/tell-us-about-your-organization). 1% of the Planet brings dollars and does together to accelerate smart environmental giving. The Planet needs you NOW.

## 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**

I am interested in volunteering:

\_\_\_\_ as a board member \_\_\_\_ on a committee (finance, PR fundraising) \_\_\_\_ with water monitoring field work  
 \_\_\_\_ on Legal issues \_\_\_\_ with grant writing \_\_\_\_ environmental education \_\_\_\_ social media \_\_\_\_ Homer City gardens plots  
 \_\_\_\_ with fundraising activities (making crafts or manning a table at sales) \_\_\_\_ other \_\_\_\_\_

